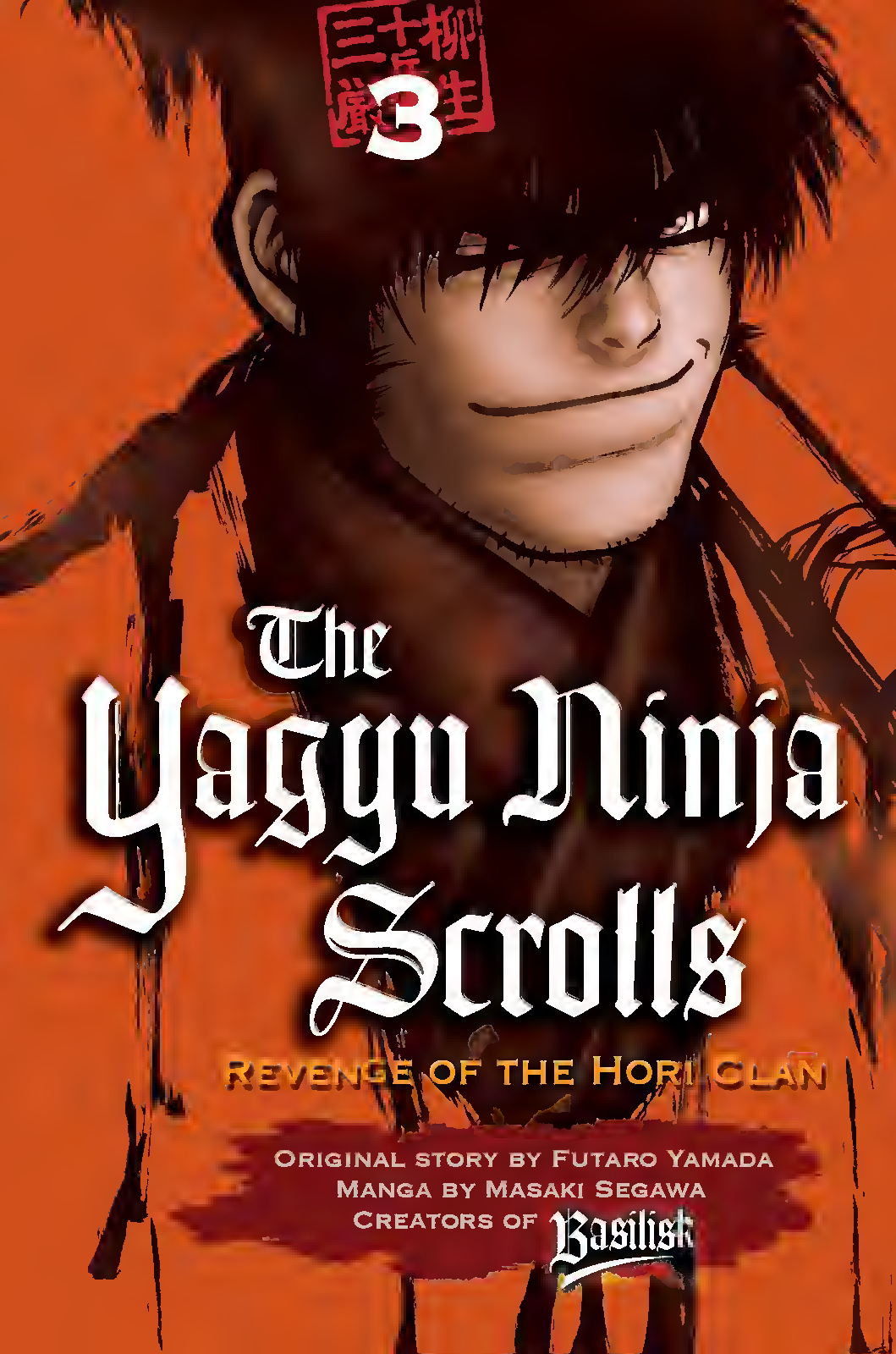
柳生十兵衛三
3
The
Yagyu Ninja
Scrolls
Revenge of the Hori Clan
Original story by Futaro Yamada
Manga by Masaki Segawa
Creators of Basilisk

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls

Revenge of the Hori Clan

ORIGINAL STORY BY FŪTARO YAMADA
MANGA BY MASAKI SEGAWA

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY MINI EDA
LETTERED BY B. HAN

3

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Translator/adapter: Mari Eda
Letterer: B. Han

Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls

3

ORIGINAL STORY BY
FŪTARO YAMADA

MANGA BY
MASAKI SEGAWA

SYNOPSIS: AFTER THE AIZU SEVEN SPEARS, ACTING UNDER THE MURDEROUS AIZU CLAN HEAD KATÔ AKINARI, BRUTALLY KILL OFF THE REBEL MEMBERS OF THE HORI CLAN, ONLY SEVEN WOMEN SURVIVE. SEEKING REVENGE, OCHIE AND THE OTHER HORI WOMEN ENLIST THE HELP OF YAGYÛ JYÛBEI MITSUYOSHI AS THEIR FIGHTING ARTS INSTRUCTOR. FIGURING ONLY DECEPTION WILL HELP THEM DEFEAT THE POWERFUL SEVEN SPEARS, JYÛBEI HATCHES A PLAN, WHICH THE WOMEN SUCCESSFULLY EXECUTE TO TAKE DOWN DAIDÔJI TESSAI AND HIS SICKLE AND CHAIN. THE REMAINING SEVEN SPEARS ARE CLEARLY SHAKEN, BUT ANOTHER BLOODY BATTLE AWAITS!

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls

INTRODUCTION OF CHARACTERS

THE AIZU SEVEN SPEARS

SHIBA ICHIGANBÔ
WIELDS A WHIP

GUSOKU JYÔNOSHIN
CUMBERS THREE GIANT MULES

HIRAGA MAGOBEI
WIELDS A SPEAR

WASHINOSU RENSUKE
USES KENPÔ

DAIDÔJI TESSAI
REVENGE ACCOMPLISHED

KÔRO GINSHIRÔ
MANIPULATES A MYSTERIOUS NET

KATÔ AKINARI
AIZU CLAN HEAD

URUSHIDO KOSUICHIRO
SWORDSMAN

THE SURVIVING WOMEN OF THE HORI CLAN

OKEI

OTORI

OSHINA

OSAWA

OFUE

SAKURA

OCHIE

YAGYÛ JYÛBEI MITSUYOSHI

The Yagyu Ninja Scrolls 3

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STORY 14: SENSEI JYÛBEI

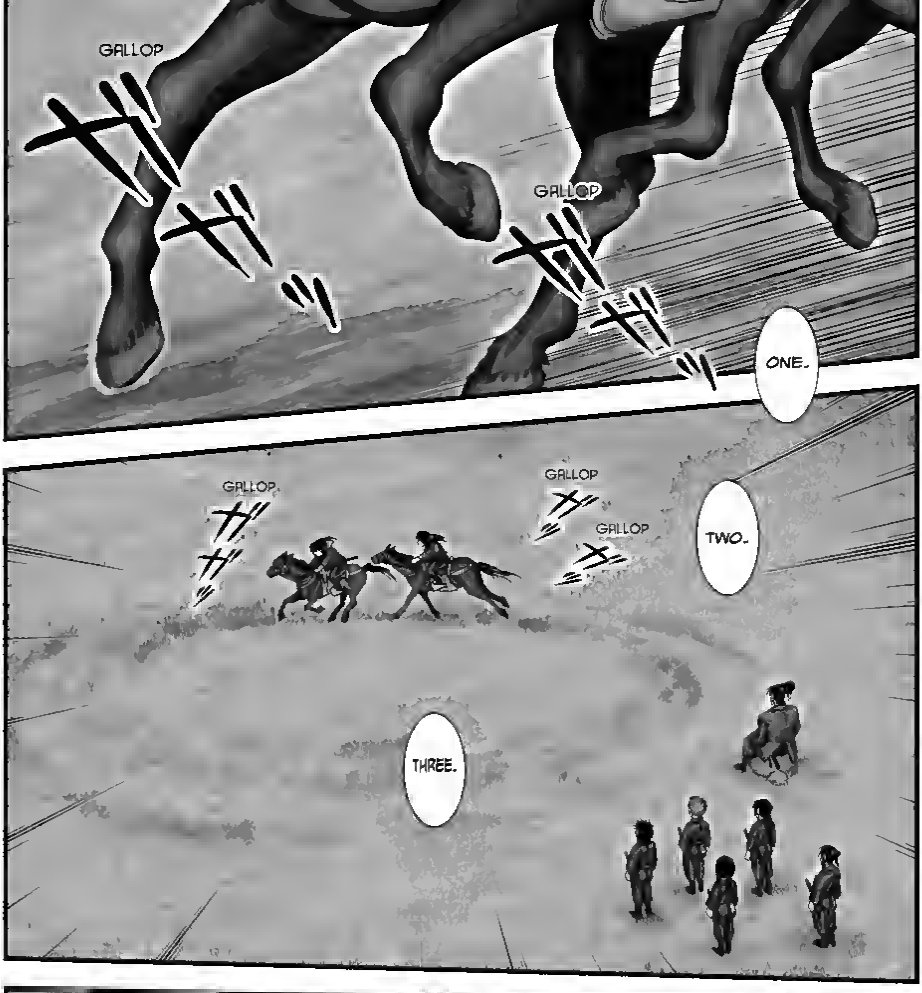
ZAZAZAZAZA
DAH.
AAAAH.
OFUE
TOH.

THUD
YELP
ZAZAZA
THINK YOU'LL DEFEAT THE SEVEN SPEARS LIKE THAT, OFUE?!
IDIOT.
UUH.
OSHIRA.
THWACK
OSAWA.

MOVE!
YOU'RE HOLDING THEM UP?
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
SNAP
ZAZAZAZA
UH...
ROLL
ROLL
ROLL
HA.

GOOD!
THAT'S THE TIMING, OSAWA.
ZA
SPIN
GOOD!
NICE, OSHINA.
ZA
HA.
DASH

AAAH.
DAH.
ZAZAZA
ZA
TAH.
KUH.
FIRST OTORI AND OKEI!
NEXT WE PRACTICE RIDING!
Y-
YES!
WELL DONE, OFUE.
MM.
HEHEH.

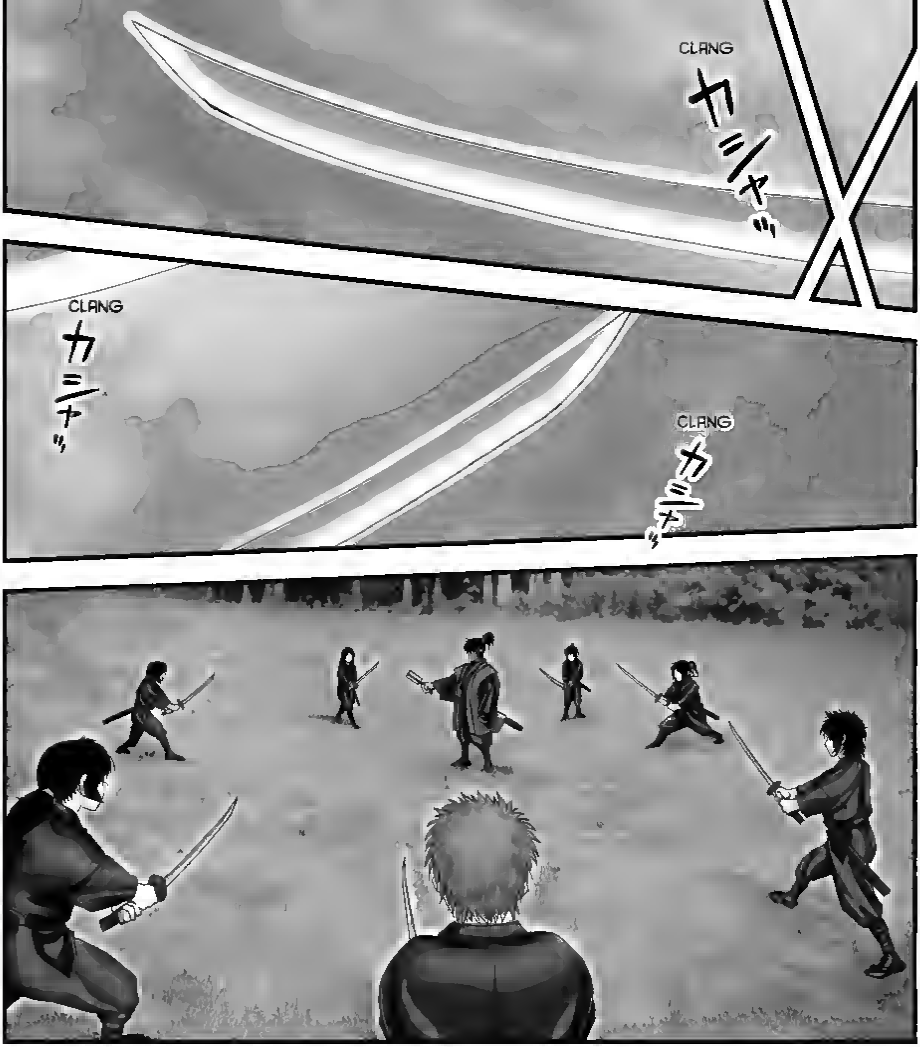

GALLOP
GALLOP
ONE.
GALLOP.
GALLOP
GALLOP
TWO.
THREE.

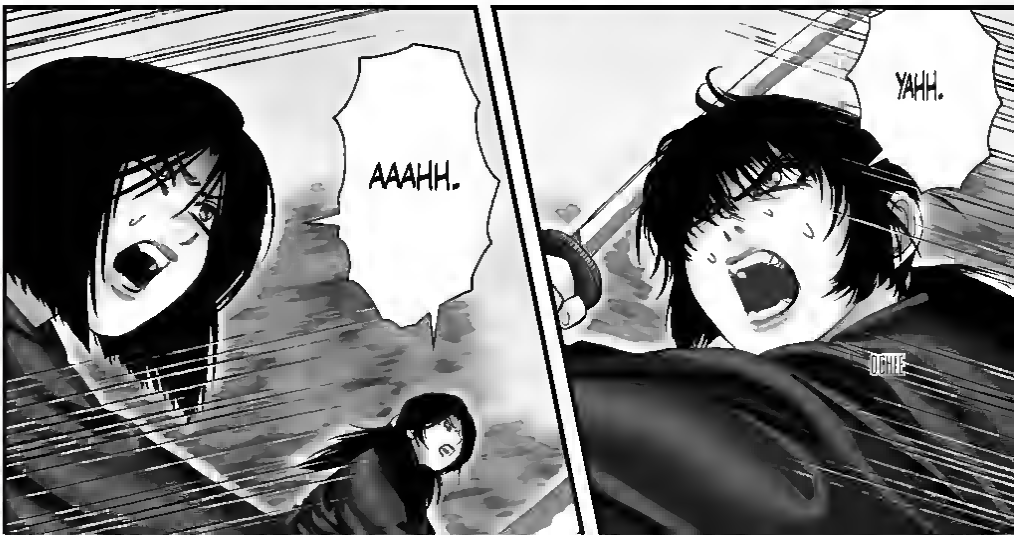
!
OTORI
MANJI JUMP!!
GO.
!
GALLOP
OKE!

JUMP
GALLOP
AH.
THUD
!
MISS
GRAB
GALLOP

GA
GALLOP
GA
THUD
LADY OTORI!!
GALLOP
GALLOP
PANT
PANT
Y—
YES!
AGAIN, WITH OSAWA!!
GET UP, OTORI!
GALLOP
GALLOP

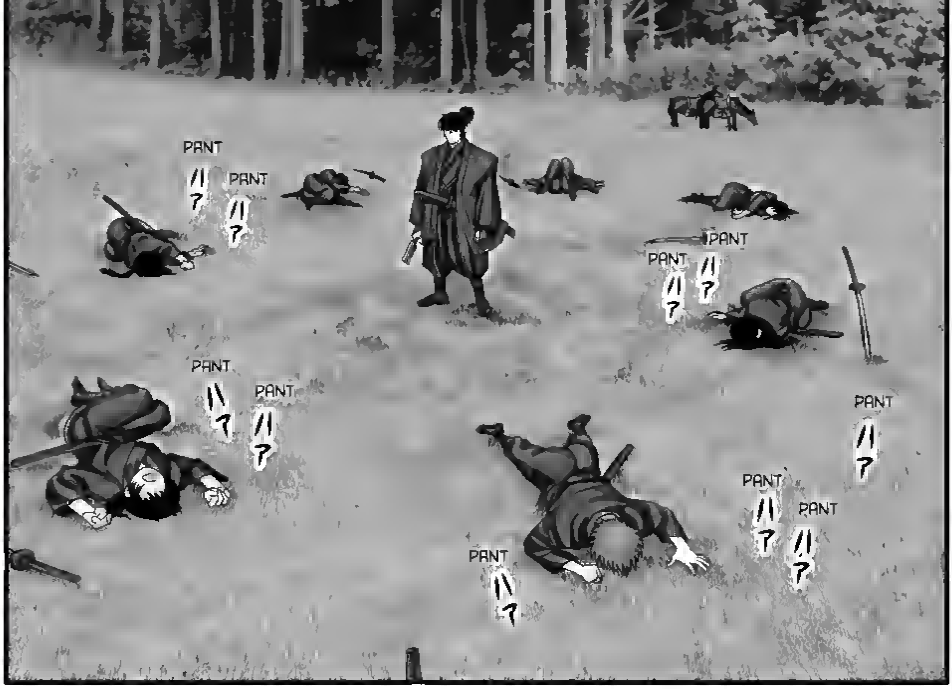
GALLOP
GRAB
GALLOP
HA!
mm.
TAP
とん
HAH
ハァ
NEXT!
OCHIE AND SAKURA!
Y-
YES!
GALLOP
GALLOP
GALLOP


CLANG
カシャ
CLANG
カシャ
CLANG
カシャ


AAAHH.
YAHH.
OCHI2

WHH
ZA
THWACK
THWACK
WHISSH
HAHH.

GUH.
ZAZA
FW.
THUD
SMACK
UGH.
THWACK
AH.
THWACK
ZAZA
ZA
THUD
SMACK
SMACK
SMACK
THWACK
UH.
THWACK
GA.
GIH.


PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT

GET UP!
BE GRATEFUL!
THE FORMER FENCING INSTRUCTOR TO THE SHOGUN,
YAGYÛ JYÛBEI HIMSELF IS TEACHING YOU.
OPEN
FAN
FAN

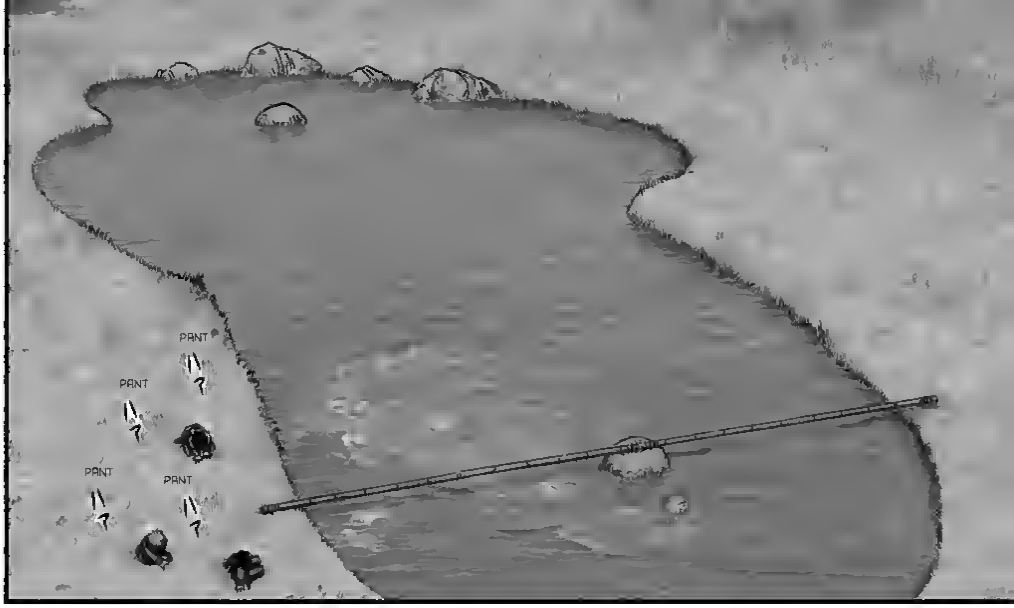
WHAT, OFLIE?
YOU WANT TO SAY SOME-THING?
DRAG
ずずず
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
TH... THINKING ABOUT IT NOW...
THREE MONTHS AGO...AT THE CONVENT.
I HAD SOME NERVE SLAPPING YOU...
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
A...
WHILE LONGER ...
THAT'S THE SPIRIT.
NOW GET UP.
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
LOOK AT THIS EYE.
RAISE
ﾅ?
.....

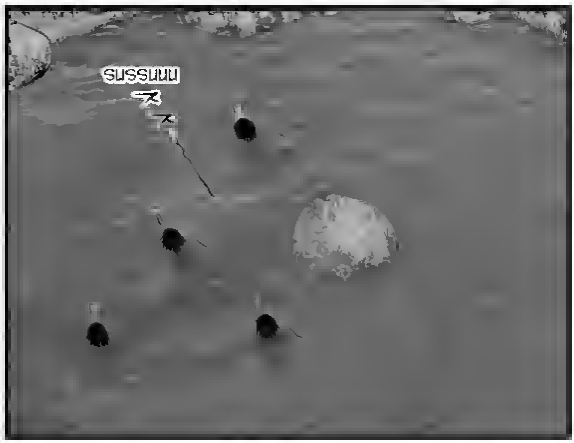
WHEN MY FATHER WAS INSTRUCTING ME WITH THE SWORD.
I LOST IT AS A YOUTH.
EVEN I ENDURED SUCH TRAINING...
YOU HAVE ENEMIES TO DEFEAT, AND YOU'RE ALREADY TIRED.
YOU WILL SURELY DIE BY THEIR HANDS.
GET UP!

PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
STAB
ザク
HM.
LIKE WILTED FLOWERS...
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
PANT
ハア
STAGGER
よろっ
HYEH.
SOME WATER THEN.

INSIDE
TÔKAIJI
TEMPLE
YOKUHÔCHI
POND
SPLASH
SCURRY
SCURRY
SCURRY
SCURRY
SCURRY
FAN
FAN
. . . . .

SCURRY
SCURRY
SPLASH
AH!
SPLASH
SLIP
UH.
SPLASH
SCURRY
SCURRY
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT


PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT


SUSSUUU

SU

GRIN

LADY OCHIE.

DASH
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
PANT
AH.
SLIP
GRAB
GRAB
OH WELL.
FAN
FAN
HYAH!
SPLASH

IS THIS HARD?
N-
NO!
NOT AT ALL!
IF EVERYDAY PREPARES US TO DEFEAT THE SEVEN SPEARS,
THIS IS NOTHING!
I FEEL ONLY SHAME.
THINKING ABOUT HOW THOSE DEVILS ARE STILL ALIVE...

WHAT IS IT, OTORI?
SENSEI JYÛBEI.
AH...

PERHAPS WE CAN DEFEAT
EACH OF THE REMAINING SIX SEVEN SPEARS...
AS WE DID AGAINST DAIDÔJI TESSAI.
IF THE SEVEN OF US ATTACKED AT ONCE...

YOU WILL BE NO MATCH FOR THEM.
EVEN AFTER A HUNDRED YEARS OF TRAINING
DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF

WHY.
TO RUN AWAY.
THEN WHAT ARE WE TRAINING FOR?
WH-WHAT!
THE SEVEN SPEARS WON'T BE SO EASILY DEFEATED.
RUN AWAY...
RU...
THAT IS WHAT I MEAN.
TO TRY AGAIN YOU MUST RUN!
IF YOU FAIL ONCE YOU MUST TRY AGAIN.

OF COURSE...
IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO EVEN...
ESCAPE THEIR CLUTCHES.
WE DID NOT...
LEAVE THE CONVENT TO RUN AWAY!
WE WILL...
NOT RUN!

WITH THAT ATTITUDE.
YOU WILL SURELY DIE.
SCRATCH SCRATCH
WHAT ATTITUDE MUST WE HAVE...
TO DEFEAT THE ENEMY?
SENSEI JYÛBEI.

YOU
MUST BECOME SOFTER.

?
SOFTER?
BE...
COME...
?
STORY 14 END

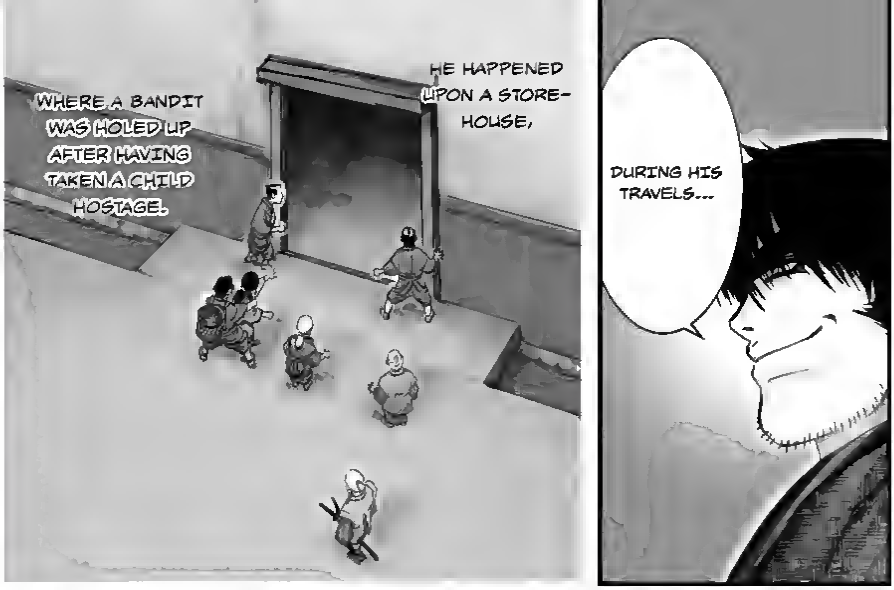
杉生十兵衛
三巌

YOU
MUST BECOME SOFTER.
BE... COME...
SOFTER?
?
?
GRIN
ニヤリ
MASTER JYÛBEI
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

A BIT DIFFICULT TO SAY OUT LOUD... MM...
RUB
THAT IS...
USE YOUR SEXUAL CHARM.
?
?
STORY 15: SENSEI JYÛBEI (2)

MY GRANDFATHER YAGYÛ SEKISHÛSAI'S MASTER WAS...
HERE IS AN EXAMPLE.

A MAN NAMED KAMIIZUMI ISENOKAMI.
EVEN TODAY, HE IS REVERED AS A GOD WITH THE SWORD.


DURING HIS TRAVELS...
HE HAPPENED UPON A STORE-HOUSE,
WHERE A BANDIT WAS HOLED UP AFTER HAVING TAKEN A CHILD HOSTAGE.

WHAT DO YOU THINK.
MASTER ISENOKAMI DID THEN?
. . . . .
I DON'T KNOW...

HE SHAVED HIS HEAD AND WENT INSIDE,
PRETENDING TO BE A PRIEST WITH A COUPLE RICE BALLS AND...
GENTLY CONFRONTED
THE BANDIT.

WITH HIS HAND..

WHEN THE BANDIT REACHED OUT
FOR THE RICE BALL..

TENSE
.....

THE MASTER LEAPED OUT
AND CAPTURED HIM IN ONE SWIFT MOVE.

AGGRESSION IS NOT THE ONLY STRATEGY AGAINST THE ENEMY. UNDERSTAND?
IN OTHER WORDS.
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
CLAP
WE UNDERSTAND SENSEI JYUBEI!
YES!
...
...IS JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE
HUH?
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
TO TELL THEM TO USE THEIR SEXUAL WILES AFTER TELLING THIS STORY...

"IF ONE PUTS HIS MIND IN THE ACTION OF HIS OPPONENT'S BODY
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY THE ACTION OF HIS OPPONENT'S BODY...
"WHERE SHOULD THE SWORDSMAN PUT HIS MIND...
UH, WELL...
TODAY'S LESSON IS FROM HIGH PRIEST TAKUAN'S THE UNFETTERED MIND.
LISTEN WELL WITH YOUR HEARTS.
YES! SENSEI JYÛBEI!
IF HE PUTS HIS MIND IN THE OPPONENT'S SWORD
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY THE OPPONENT'S SWORD...
IF HE PUTS HIS MIND IN THE THOUGHTS OF HIS OPPONENT'S INTENTION TO STRIKE HIM
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY THE THOUGHTS OF HIS OPPONENT'S INTENTION TO STRIKE HIM...

IF HE PUTS HIS MIND IN HIS OWN SWORD
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY HIS OWN SWORD...
HIS OWN INTENTION OF NOT BEING STRUCK.
IF HE PUTS HIS MIND IN HIS OWN INTENTION OF NOT BEING STRUCK
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY

BUZZ
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY THE OTHER MAN'S STANCE..."
IF HE PUTS HIS MIND IN THE OTHER MAN'S STANCE
THEREFORE
ONE SHOULD PUT HIS MIND..."
HYAAH!
!
!
BUZZ

A B-
BEE.
KYA!
BUZZZ
!
AH!
PUNCH

BUZZ
ブーン
HYEHH.
GRAB
ガシッ
GRAZE
ピッ
BUZZ
ブブーン

IF HE PUTS HIS MIND IN THE THOUGHTS OF HOW HE WILL GET THE WOMEN TO RELEASE HIM.
HIS MIND WILL BE TAKEN BY THE THOUGHTS OF HOW HE WILL GET THE WOMEN TO RELEASE HIM.
RELEASE
パッ
THUD
ドサ
GOOD GRIEF...
IF THIS WERE THE ENEMY... THEY'D BE DONE FOR.

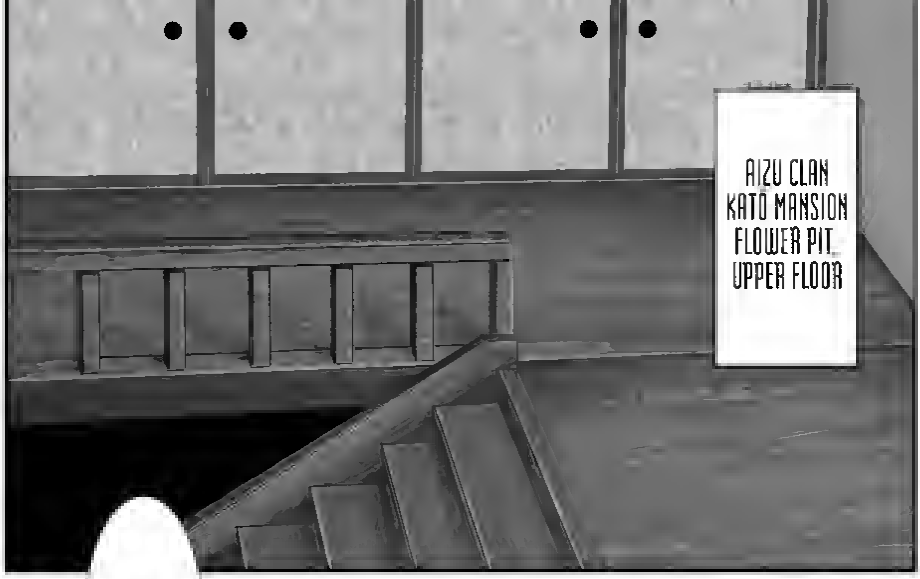
EVERYTHING ALL RIGHT SENSEI JYÛBEI?
OH...NO WELL...
A BEE FLEW BY AND...

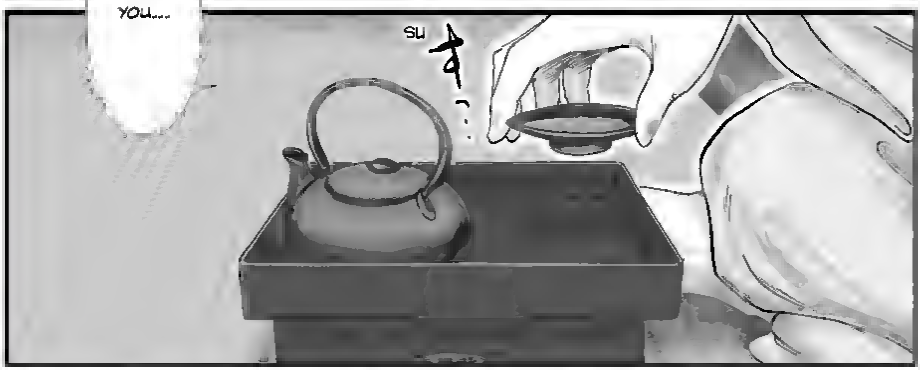
IS THIS THE YAGYÛ-STYLE'S
GRIN
SECRET ART OF PROTECTING AGAINST BEES USING WOMEN?

WAHAHAHAHAHA.
...OLD MASTER...

A MESSENGER CAME FROM LADY TENJUIN
JUST NOW WITH AN INVITATION TO TEA...
WHOSE TURN IS IT TO GO TO TAKEBASHI GATE TONIGHT?

OH, YES.
TONIGHT I WILL...





*Daimyo were required to live part of the year in Edo where the Shogun resides

AND FOR WHAT!
I'VE EXTENDED MY STAY HERE, FAKING ILLNESS TO THE SHOGUN.

UNTIL THE MATTER WITH THE HORI WOMEN IS SETTLED...
WE ARE AWARE YOU CANNOT GO BACK TO AIZU
BEGGING YOUR PARDON.

YOU ARE SO AWARE...
...IF

FINISH IT!!
WHY DON'T YOU
SPLASH
.....
LICK
ペロッ
BEGGING YOUR PARDON, WE HAVE BEEN SECRETLY KEEPING AN EYE ON
A CERTAIN PLACE, WHICH MAY LEAD US TO THE HORI WOMEN.
NOD
コキ
NOD
コキ
EVEN TESSAI WILL NOT REST IN PEACE.
IF THIS CONTINUES...

A CERTAIN PLACE?
WHERE IS THAT?

WHERE
THE LADY TENJUIN RESIDES...

EDO CASTLE

IN FRONT OF TAKEBASHI GATE
HITA
ヒタ
.....
.....
.....

.....
STORY 15 END

EDO CASTLE
TAKEBASHI GATE
PLEASE GIVE OUR REGARDS TO LADY TENJUIN...
MM.
BE CAREFUL GOING BACK TO SHINAGAWA, LADY OTORI.
...YES, SHURI-SAMA.
PLEASE EXCUSE US.
.....
WITH MASTER JYUBEI WITH YOU.
I SUPPOSE THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY

STORY 16: MANJI JUMP
WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO COME BACK HERE FOR A WHILE...
OH?
...WE'RE BEING WATCHED
LOOK
LOOK
OH?
WHAT?
SENSEI JYUBEI...?
YES.
OTORI.

FINALLY CAME UP WITH THE IDEA TO SPY ON LADY TENJUIN.
BAS-TARDS...
ACTUALLY WE'VE BEEN WATCHED SINCE WE FIRST ARRIVED HERE...
...BY A DOG.
...
DOG!?
GUSOKU JYÔNOSHIN!
...YOU THINK SO TOO.

JUST CIRCLE AROUND THE CASTLE
FOR A WHILE INSTEAD OF HEADING BACK TO SHINAGAWA.
YEAH.
WE CAN DO THAT...
HEY, CARRIAGE RUNNER.
YEAH, BOSS.
HUT
EIHO.
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA

TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
TA
UMM..
THIS IS
A BIT TROUBLE-SOME...

THEY CAN'T BE ALLOWED TO FIND THE WOMEN AT TÔKAIJI TEMPLE IN SHINAGAWA...
MAYBE HEAD FOR THE YAGYU MANSION IN KOBIKI-CHÔ...

NO...
RELY ON THE YAGYU HERE, AND THE WOMEN'S BRAVE EFFORTS TO GET
REVENGE ON THEIR OWN WILL BE IN VAIN.
MM...MAYBE FOR NOW...

...BUT I'VE BEEN FORSAKEN BY MY FATHER...
HOW WILL MY SERIOUS FATHER REACT...
HE PROBABLY WON'T REFUSE US IF I EXPLAIN...
HMM.
RUB
RUB

WAOOOOOON
オ
オ
オ

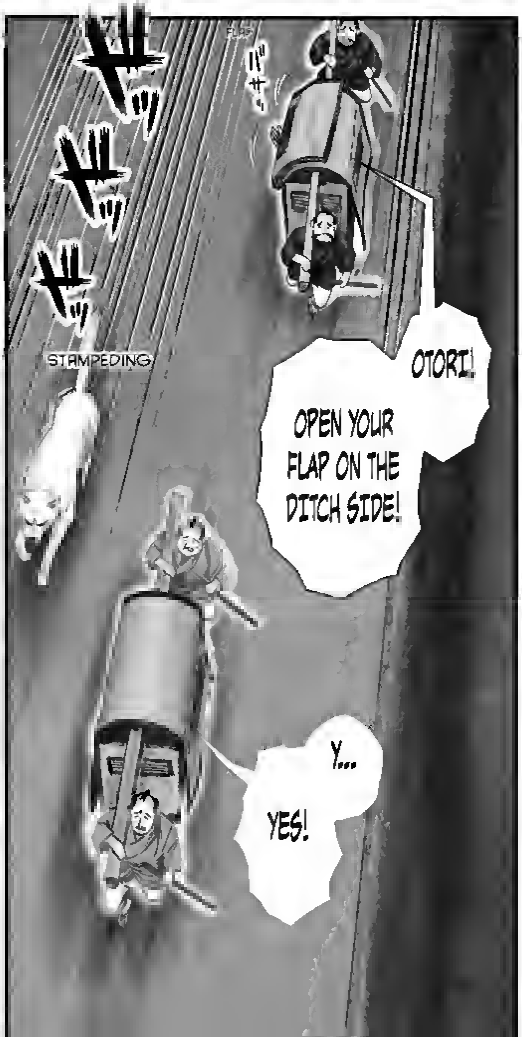
STAMPEDE
WAOOON
WO.
WOWOA...
SHAKE
SHAKE
STAGGER
STAGGER
OH.
OH.
STAMPEDE
HOWLING.
MORE DOGS NEARBY.
CLICK

LEAP
SHH
GRRRR
WHISSH
DAMN YOU...
GRIN

GEH.
!!
CARRIAGE IN FRONT! DON'T STOP!
STAMPEDING
HYEH!
YE-
YEAH!
KEEP RUNNING NO MATTER WHAT!!
STOP AND THE DOG WILL ATTACK YOU!

O-KAYYY!
HYEH?
FROM THE DITCH SIDE!
OVERTAKE THE FIRST CARRIAGE!
CAR-RIAGE RUNNER!

FLAP


STAMPEDING
OTORI!
OPEN YOUR FLAP ON THE DITCH SIDE!
Y...
YES!

GO!
MANJI JUMP!!

!
GA
GAGA
GA
THUD
UGYU.
ZA

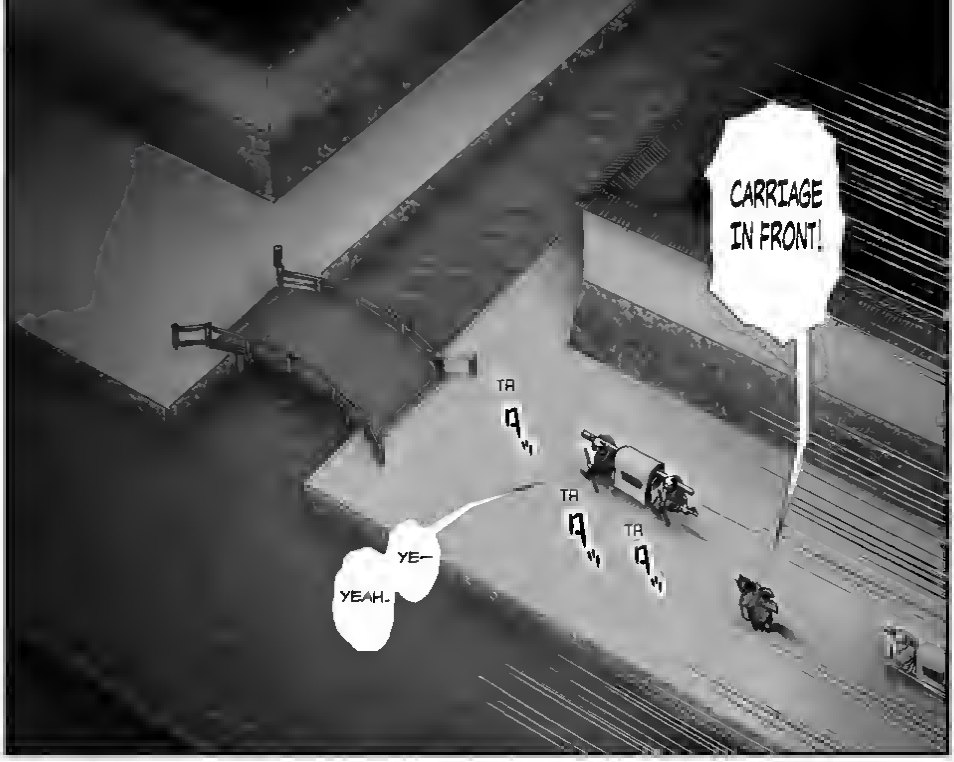
TA
TA
TA
TA
GOOD! WELL DONE, OTORI.
DO
DO
DO
TWITCH
THUD
GRIN
APPEAR

GWAAAU

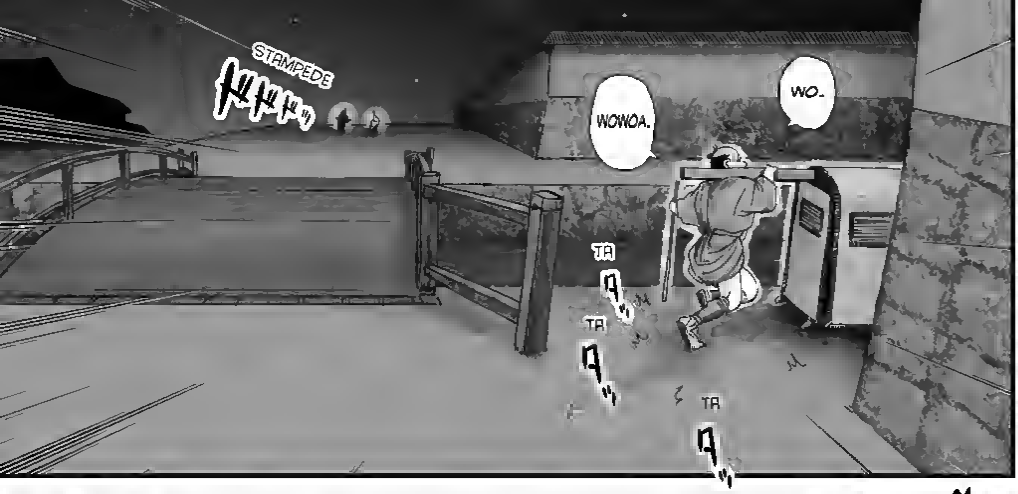
GRAB
DOSSHH
GRRR.

CRACK
WIMPER.

FLAP
TA
TA
TA
SORRY...
YOUR OWNER IS TO BLAME...
GEH.
APPEAR
GOOD JOB, CARRIAGE RUNNER.
THANKS.
DRIP
DRIP


CARRIAGE IN FRONT!
TA
TA
TA
YE—
YEAH.

TA
TA
TA
TA
BREAK RIGHT BEFORE THE BRIDGE!
TA
YE—
YEAH.
TA


STAMPEDE
WOWOA.
WO..
TA
TA
TA

THERE!
WROOOON

GOOD, KAZEMARU!
KAZEMARU'S HOWL MUST HAVE BEEN TO ALERT ME TO THE CARRIAGE!

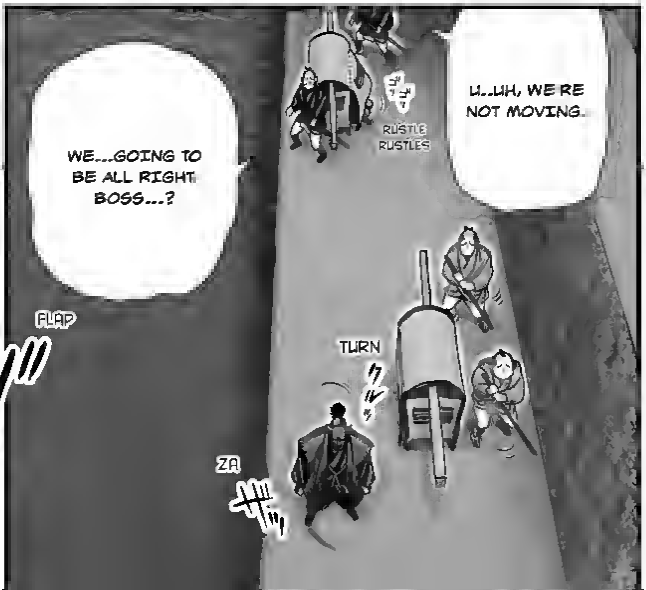
TENMARU!
CHASE THE CARRIAGE!
CHIMARU!
GAU.
WAU.
...SEEMS WE CAN'T ESCAPE...
DO
DO
DO
DO

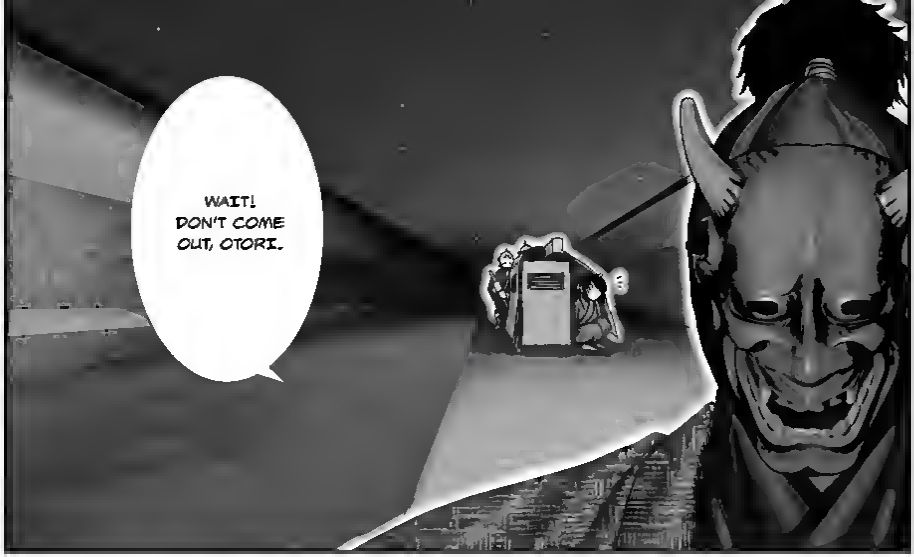
SENSEI JYÛBEI!
THAT IS ONE OF THE AIZU SEVEN SPEARS.
GUSOKU JYÔNOSHIN!
WE MUST NOT RUN!

YE... YES.
SLIDE

PLEASE STOP, CARRIAGE RUNNER!
EH?

FLAP


WE...GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT, BOSS...?
U...UH, WE'RE NOT MOVING.
RUSTLE RUSTLES
TURN
ZA


WAIT! DON'T COME OUT, OTORI.

CAN'T BE HELPED.
THE DOGS ARE A PROBLEM...
IF WE TRY TO ESCAPE BEFORE THE OTHER SEVEN SPEARS GET HERE.

...YES.

UNTIL I CALL YOU!
STAY IN THE CARRIAGE.
UNDER-STOOD?

BUT SENSEI JYÛBEI!

STAY BACK BEHIND THE OTHER CARRIAGE.
Y... YEAH.
CARRIAGE RUNNER.

THE HANNYA MASK AIDING THE HORI WOMEN?
YOU'RE...
GRRRR
ガルルル

IT SHOULDN'T BE A PROBLEM IF I TAKE CARE OF THE DOGS.
WELL...THE MONKEY ASIDE...
BE TROUBLE IF THEY CONTINUE TO FOLLOW US...

HM? CHIMARU!
ZAZA
STEP
TEN-MARU?
DAMN...
MUST HAVE FELT MY MURDEROUS AIR.
IF WE STAY HERE MUCH LONGER...
JYÔNOSHIN!!

OHH!
MAGOBEI.
!!
STORY 16 END

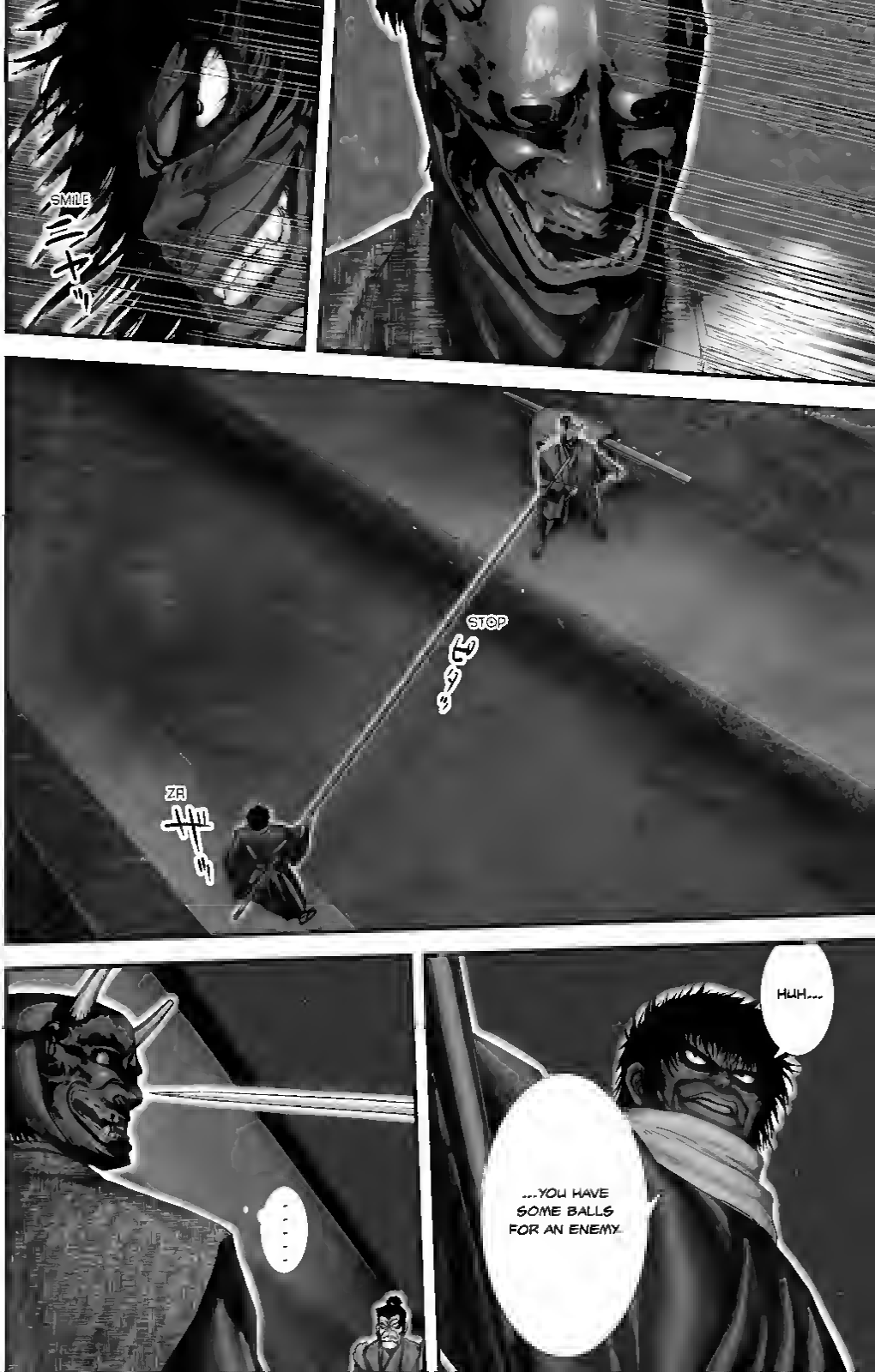
OHH!
MAGOBEI..
JYÔNOSHIN!!
GO AROUND THE OTHER SIDE OF THE DITCH!!
HERE!
!!

STORY 17: BAMBOO SPEAR BRIDGE

GRIND
GRIND
GRIND
YOU WILL NOT ESCAPE TONIGHT!
DASH
STAMPEDE
I WILL SHOW YOU!
THE RED SPEAR OF MAGOBEI!!

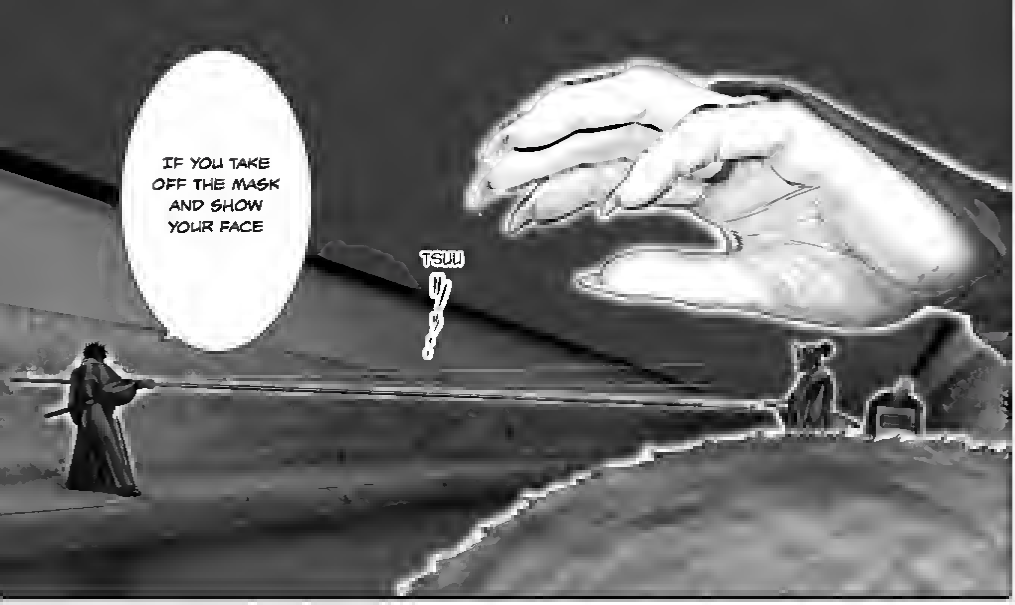
GRIN
GRIND
GRIND
DO
DO
DO
DO
DO

SENSEI JYÛBEI...
SU
DO
ZA


SMILE
ニヤッ
STOP
ピタッ
ZA
ザッ
HUH...
...YOU HAVE SOME BALLS FOR AN ENEMY.

WHAT'S WRONG, MAGOBEI?
WHA-
HANNYA.
TAKE OFF THAT MASK.
.....
THE HORI WOMEN MUST BE IN....
THOSE CARRIAGES!

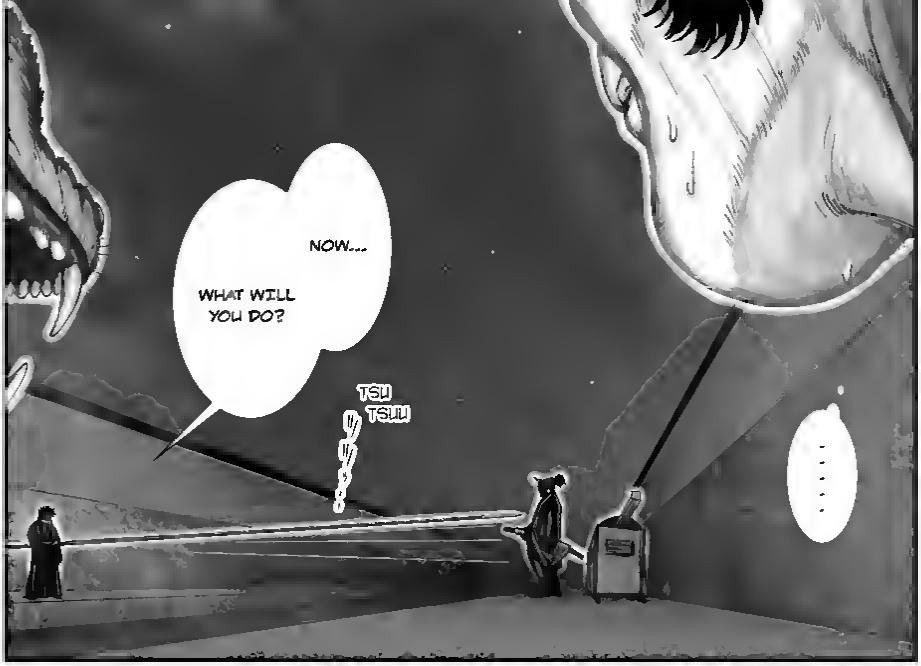
THE WOMEN CAN'T BE FORGIVEN FOR GOING AGAINST LORD AKINARI BUT YO-...
YOU SHOW SOME PROMISE.
SWEND
SU
M, MAGO-BEI.
...WHAT ARE YOU SAYING!?
GRRRRR


IF YOU TAKE OFF THE MASK AND SHOW YOUR FACE
TSUU

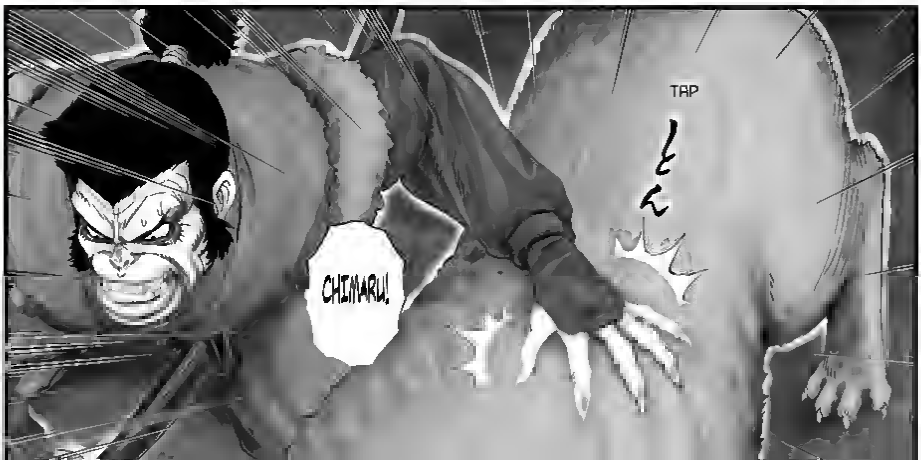
STOP

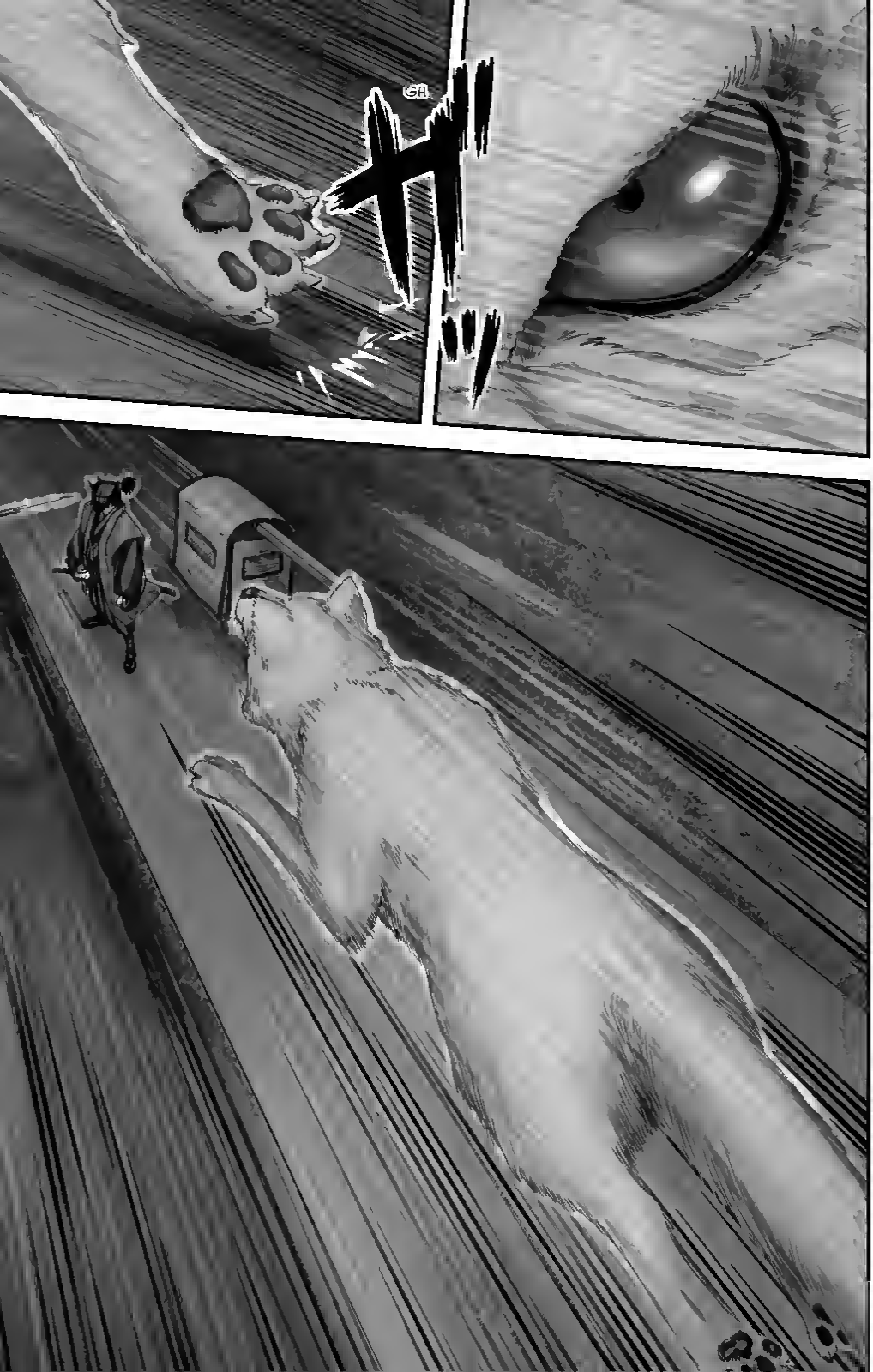
TSU
TSU
TSU
TSU
GET ON YOUR KNEES AND SURRENDER...

I MIGHT ASK LORD AKINARI TO SPARE YOUR LIFE!
I LET DOWN MY GUARD LAST TIME...
BUT IT'S MY TURN TO TOY WITH YOU.


NOW....
WHAT WILL YOU DO?
TSU
TSU..!!
.....

...YES, NOW!!


TAP
CHINARU!


GA
H

GWAU
!
GOT YOU!!
DSHHHH
HUH.
IT ENDS HERE....

ZSHHHH

NRGH.
SQUEAK
SQUEAK
SQUEAK

CH... CHI-MARU...
DROP
DROP
THE SECOND CARRIAGE!!
I FELT SOMETHING, JYÔNOSHIN!!
SU
YANK
I GOT ONE OF THE HORI WOMEN!

STOMP
GRAB
GRGH.
JERK
WOA!?
SLAM

GRAB
!?
WRENCH
WRENCH
WRENCH
WON'T...
BUDGE!
GLANCE

RELEASE THE DOG!!
JYÔNOSHIN!
GRRRR
グルルルル。。
SHIVER ぶる
SHIVER ぶる
SHIVER ぶる
UH...
...GRH...

ぶるぶる
SHIVER
ぶるぶる
SHIVER
すっ
SU
COME OUT, OTORI.

SU
ナ〜。。

NRGH.

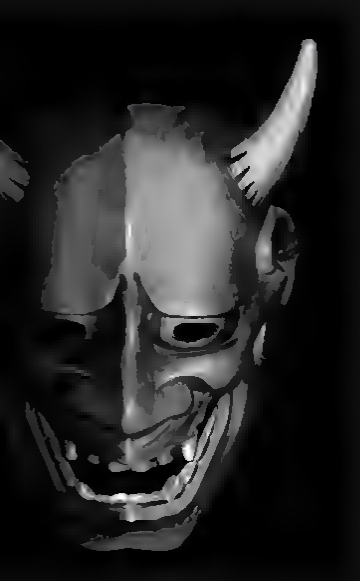
カキン
CLICK
YANK
グイッ
OTORI.
TONIGHT WE GET MAGOBEI.
SU
すっ
!
FORGET THE BAMBOO BRIDGE?
THE DITCH BE-TWEEN US.
BUT...

AH...
KICK
ドン
TA
TA
TA
GRAB
ZA
CLANG
カキン

NRGH!?
CREAK
きー
TAP
とん
TA
TA
DAUGHTER OF HORI CLAN VASSAL, ITAKURA FUDEN.
OTORI!

GASSH
PREPARE TO DIE!!
MAGOBEI.
DAMN YOUR IMPUDENCE!!
YANK
CLICK

ガク
DROP
ニヤッ
GRIN
HA.
STORY 17 END



AH.
GASSH
DROP
HA.

GRAB
STOMP
TENSE
YANK
!!
JUMP
ARCH

MAGOBE!!
NWOA!?
WOHHHH.
ZA!ZA

GRIND
GRIND
SPLATTER
GA
GRGH...
GSHH
GASSHH

STORY 18: FIVE SNAKE EYES
CLANG
カンッ
CLANG
カンッ
HAN...
GRIND
ギギギ
STICKER
GRIND
ギギギ
...NYA...
THUD
MAGOBEI.
YOU DIE! WHEN YOU CUT YOUR OWN SPEAR.

PANT
ハアっ。

WELL DONE, OTORI.
YANK
クイッ
WHISHH
シュッ
CLICK
カチ
STOP
ストップ
GRGH!!
FINISH HIM.
Y-YES!

SHIVER
わな
SHIVER
わな
U..GRH..
DON'T MOVE.
MOVE AND I'LL IMPALE YOU WITH THIS SPEAR.
YOU WENT THROUGH QUITE A SCARE TONIGHT.
SORRY ABOUT THAT.
.....
チャリン
JINGLE
SU
NRGH?
GRRRR
グルルル..
G-GOLD!
B...BOSS?

HANNYA MASK!
MAKING A FOOL OF ME!
PAT
TENMARU!!
THAT'S FOR THE RIDE AND
FOR SCARING YOU...
AND FOR MESSING THE CARRIAGE WITH BLOOD.
ARF
GWWA!!

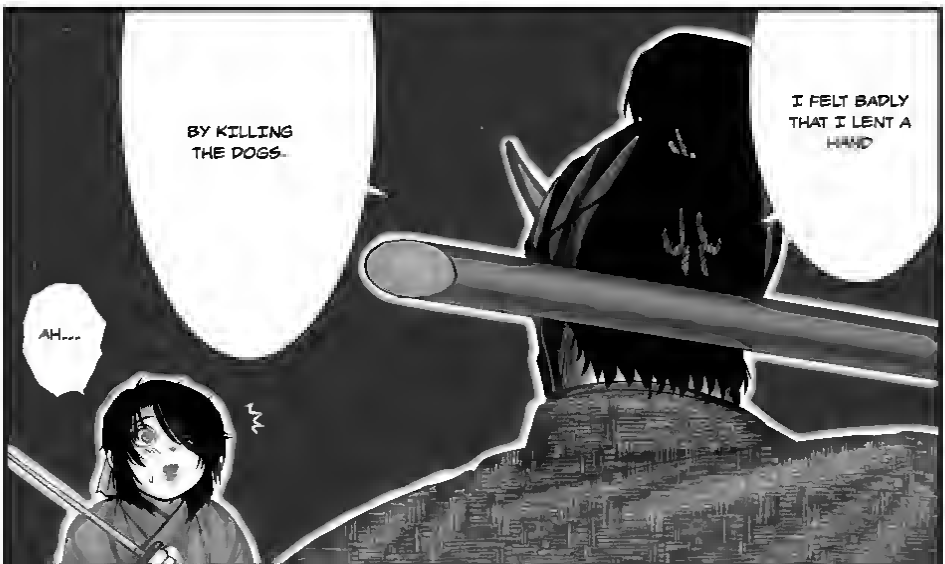
SU
FLOH

SPLASH
TAP
DON'T MOVE, JYÔNOSHIN!
TE-
TENMARU!!
MOVE AND THIS SPEAR WILL FLY
GR...

SENSEI, THROW THE SPEAR, PLEASE!

WHAT?

OTORI.
...SHOULD I BE THE ONE TO KILL JYÔNOSHIN?


BY KILLING THE DOGS.
I FELT BADLY THAT I LENT A HAND
AH...

FOR-
GIVE
ME.
FOR-
GIVE
ME.
I DIDN'T THINK
YOU WOULD WANT TO
KILL A DOG.
HOWEVER
TH...THEN I
WILL KILL
JYÔNOSHIN...
.
.
.
.

YE...
YES.
AH.

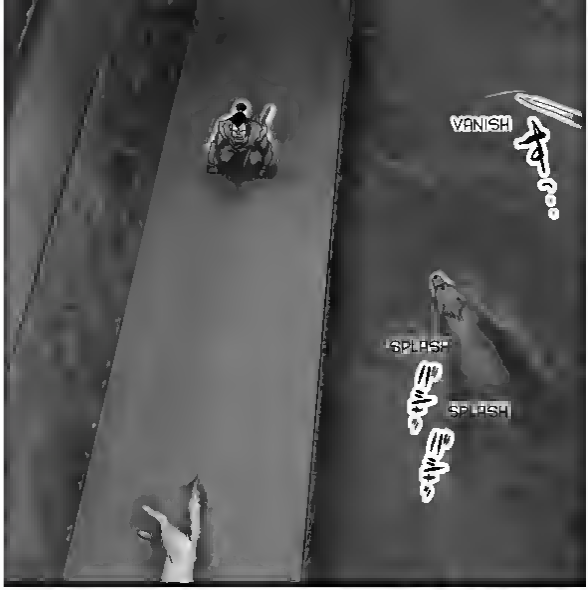
WHAT WILL
THE OTHER
WOMEN SAY?
DON'T BE
GREEDY
OTORI.
IF YOU
KILL TWO BY
YOURSELF...

BETTER TO
BREAK THE FIVE
REMAINING...
BESIDES.

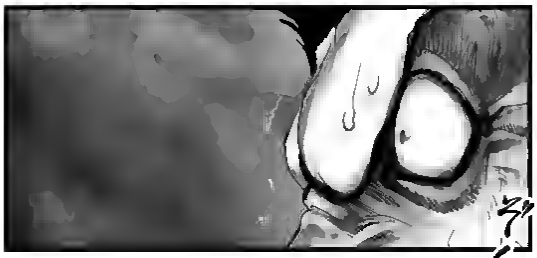
.....
...SEVEN SPEARS ONE SPEAR AT A TIME...
TO MAKE KATÔ AKINARI FEEL THE THREAT CLOSING IN.
SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO.
YES!

JUST THROW OUT WHAT'S INSIDE FIRST.
GET YOUR CARRIAGE AND GO.
Y... YEAH...
CAR-RIAGE RUNNER!

CREAK
CREAK
WHAT'S INSIDE?
IT WASN'T ONE OF THE HORI WOMEN?
!!
ZU


VANISH
SPLASH
SPLASH

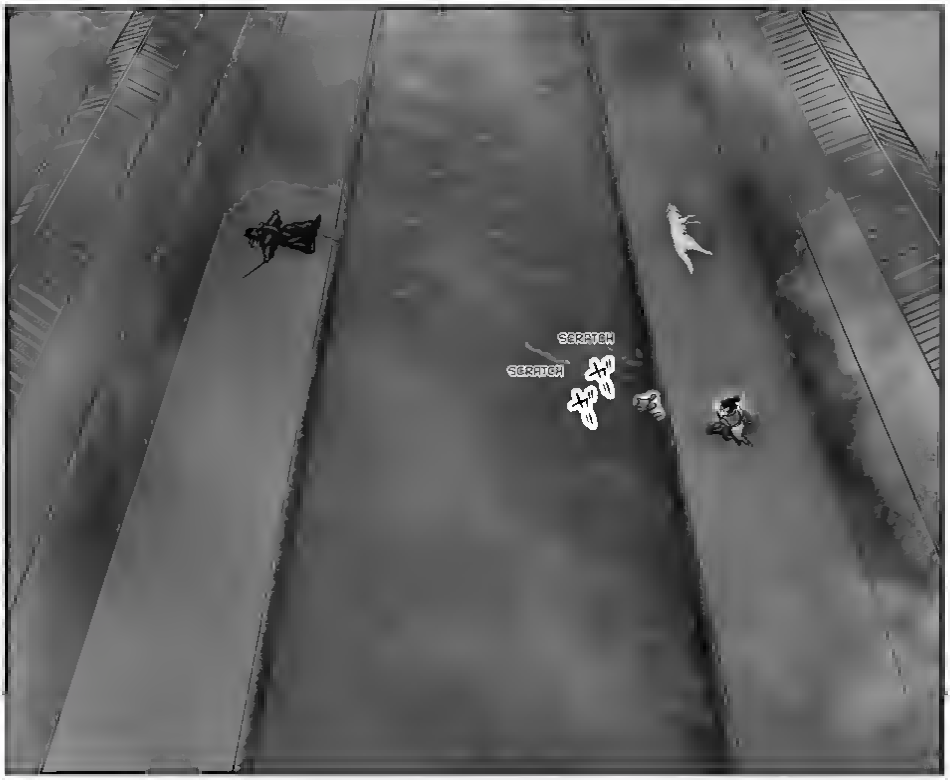
KA...
...KAZE-MARU.



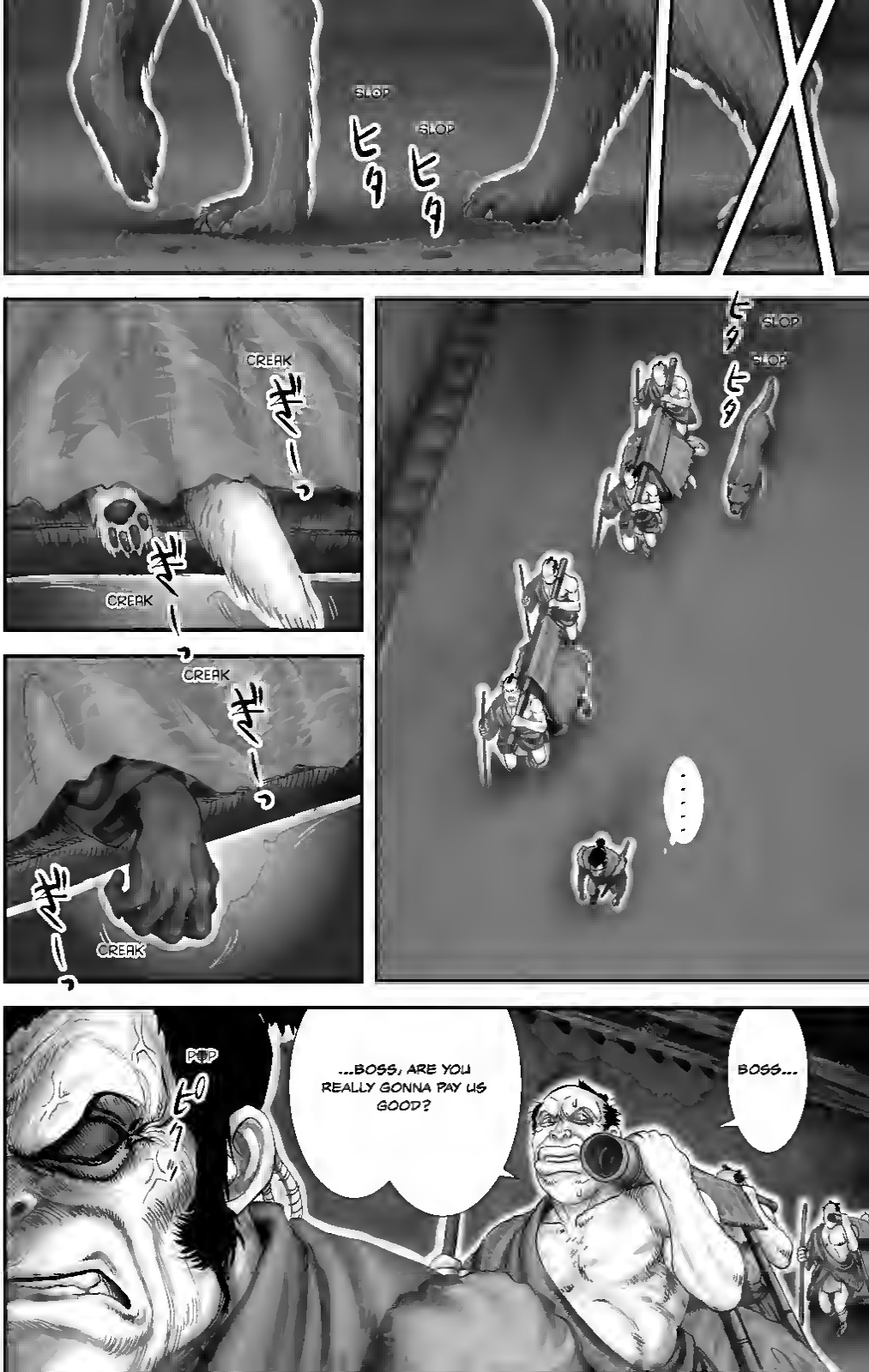
SHUDDER

SCRATCH
SCRATCH
SCRATCH

SCRATCH
SCRATCH
ガシ
ガシ

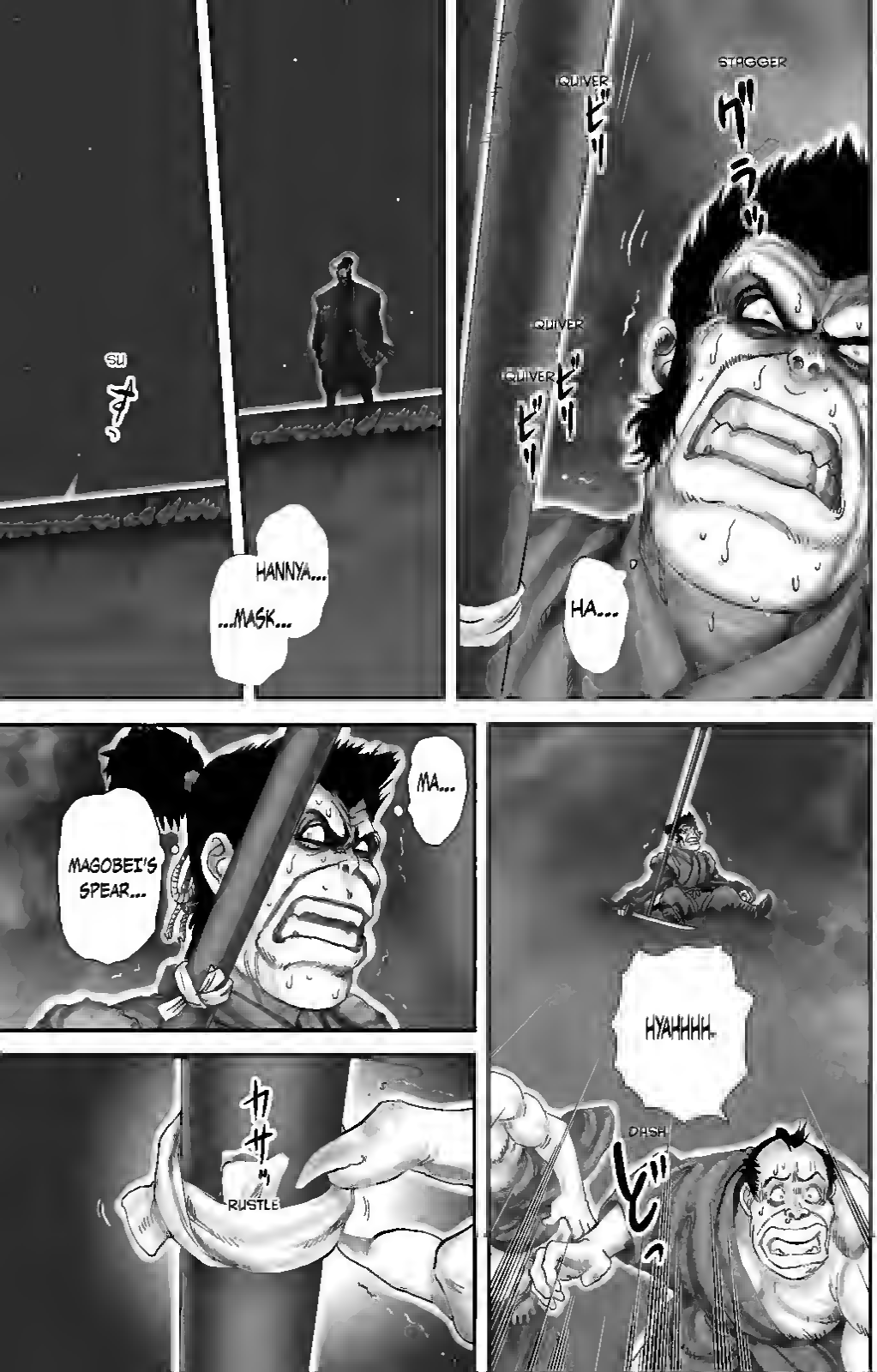

SCRATCH
SCRATCH
ガシ
ガシ

SCRATCH
SCRATCH
ガシ
ガシ…


SLOP
ヒタ
SLOP
ヒタ
CREAK
ギィーっ
CREAK
CREAK
ギィーっ
CREAK
ギィーっ
SLOP
ヒタ
SLOP
ヒタ
.....
POP
ぐりっ
...BOSS, ARE YOU REALLY GONNA PAY US GOOD?
BOSS...

YE-
YEAH...
SHUT UP AND MOVE.
...YOU'LL GET PLENTY LATER.
...THIS IS GOOD HERE.
THUMP
ドムッ
WELL THEN...
SURE.
BA
HERE'S...
YOUR PAYMENT!
NOW...
CLACK
カッ
AS PROMISED...

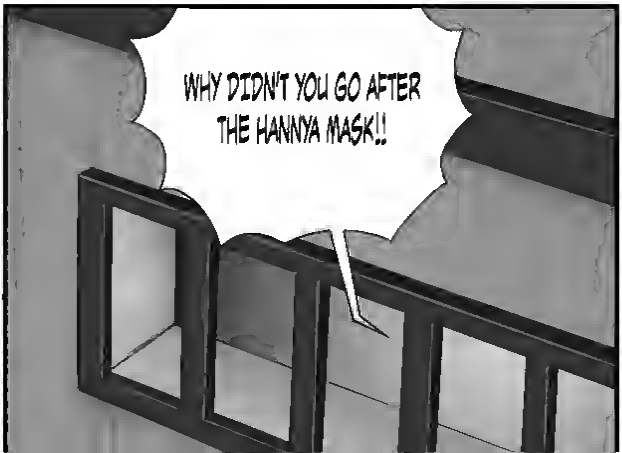
WHISHH
HEE.
HYEHH.
ZUGRAH


SU
HANNYA...
...MASK...
QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER
STAGGER
HA...
MA...
MAGOBEI'S SPEAR...
RUSTLE
HYAHHHH
DHSH

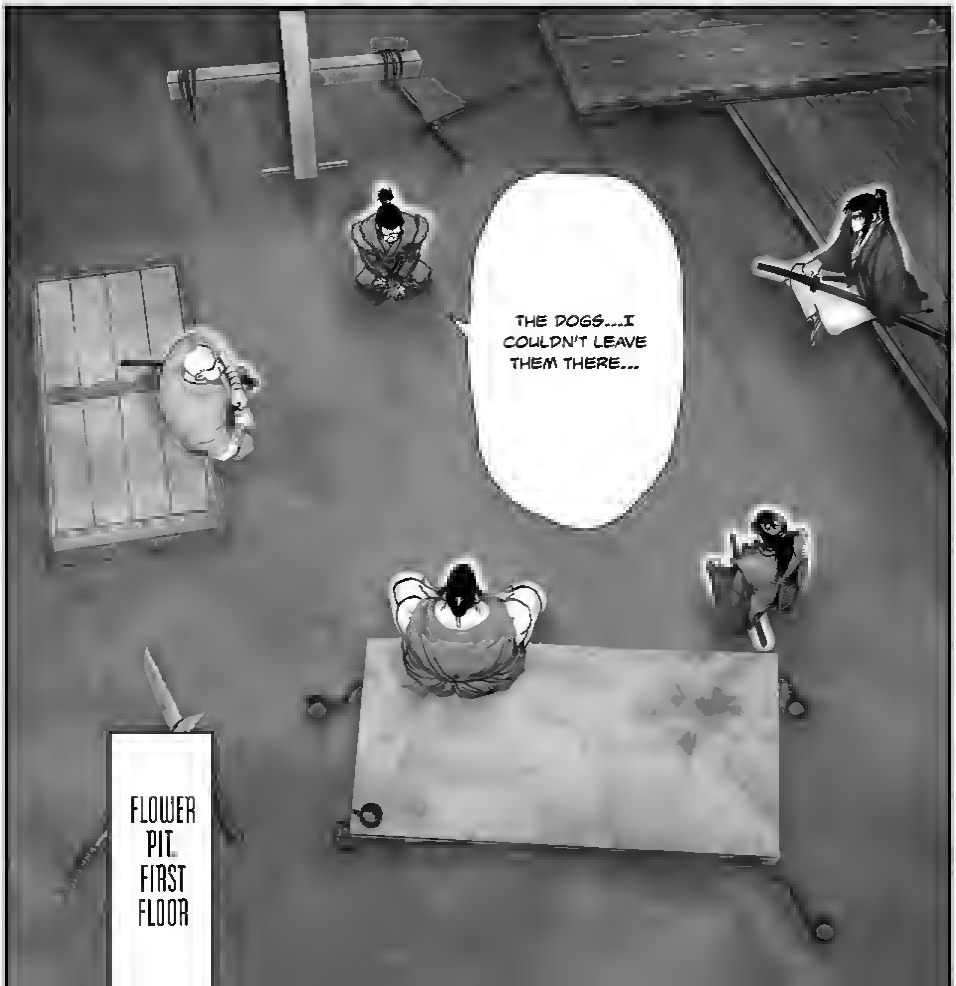
五つ蛇の目は
FIVE SNAKE EYES
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
STORY 18 END

FLOWER PIT
AIZU CLAN
CORNER OF KATÔ PROPERTY

JYÔNOSHIN!


WHY DIDN'T YOU GO AFTER THE HANNYA MASK!!

...MA...
MAGOBEI AND...


THE DOGS...I COULDN'T LEAVE THEM THERE...
FLOWER PIT, FIRST FLOOR

TCH.
MAGOBEI LET DOWN HIS GUARD.

.....
SINCE THE INCIDENT AT THE CONVENT, WE SUSPECTED LADY TENJUIN TO BE PULLING THE STRINGS BEHIND THE HORI WOMEN...
IT WAS AS WE EXPECTED.

STORY 19: THE THREE BENEFITS

BUT AFTER THE FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH THE HANNYA MASK
WE INVESTIGATED ALL THE MERCHANTS AND MAIDS GOING IN AND OUT OF TAKEBASHI.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
BUT WE COULDN'T FIND THE WOMEN AMONG THEM...

IF THEY WERE USING PUBLIC CARRIAGES...
THEY MUST HAVE COME FROM OUTSIDE THE CASTLE.
THEY'RE HIDING SOMEWHERE IN EDO, AS WE THOUGHT.
CLACK

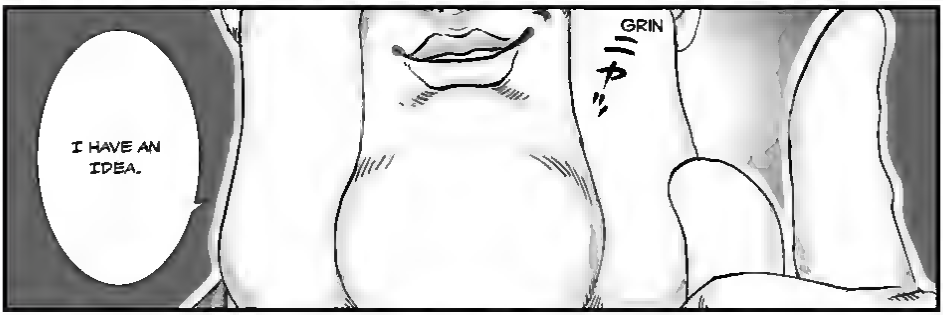
TURNS OUT OUR KEEPING WATCH ON THAT AREA...PAID OFF
.....

HMPH!
DOESN'T AMOUNT TO MUCH IF...
THE ONE DOING THE WATCHING IS DEAD!!

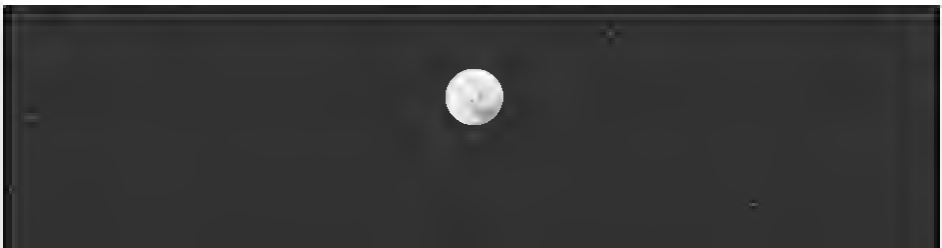
YOU...
SHOULD ALL BE CAREFUL...

THAT HANNYA MASK...HE'S A FIERCE ONE...
SKILLED?
HMPH, THAT'S RIDICU-LOUS.
AND...
HE MUST HAVE TRAINED HER.
OTORI HAS ALSO BECOME QUITE SKILLED...

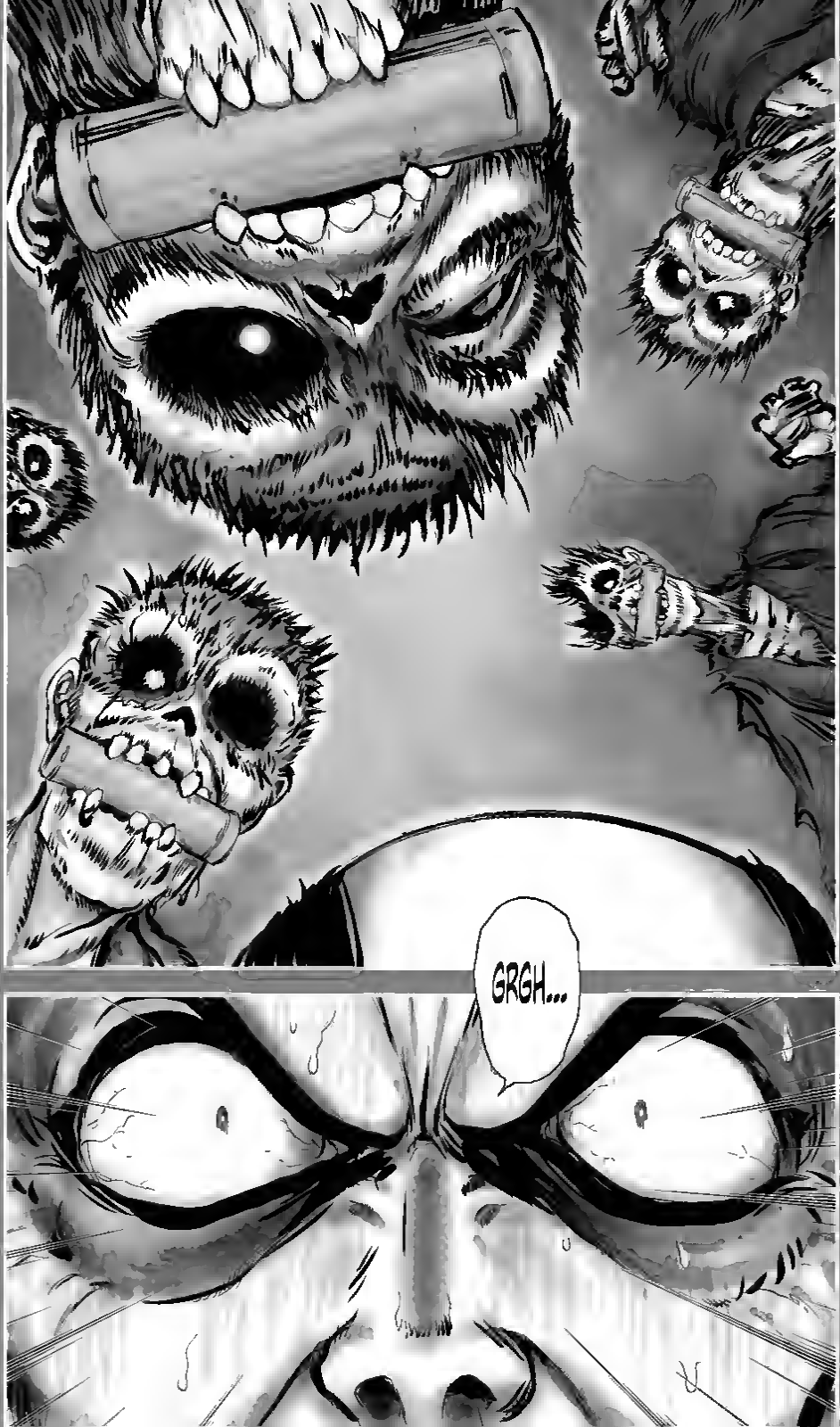
IN ANY CASE.
IF WE DON'T FINISH THEM...
WE CAN'T SHOW OUR FACE BEFORE LORD AKINARI.
.....


GRIN
ニヤ"
I HAVE AN IDEA.

OH?
.....



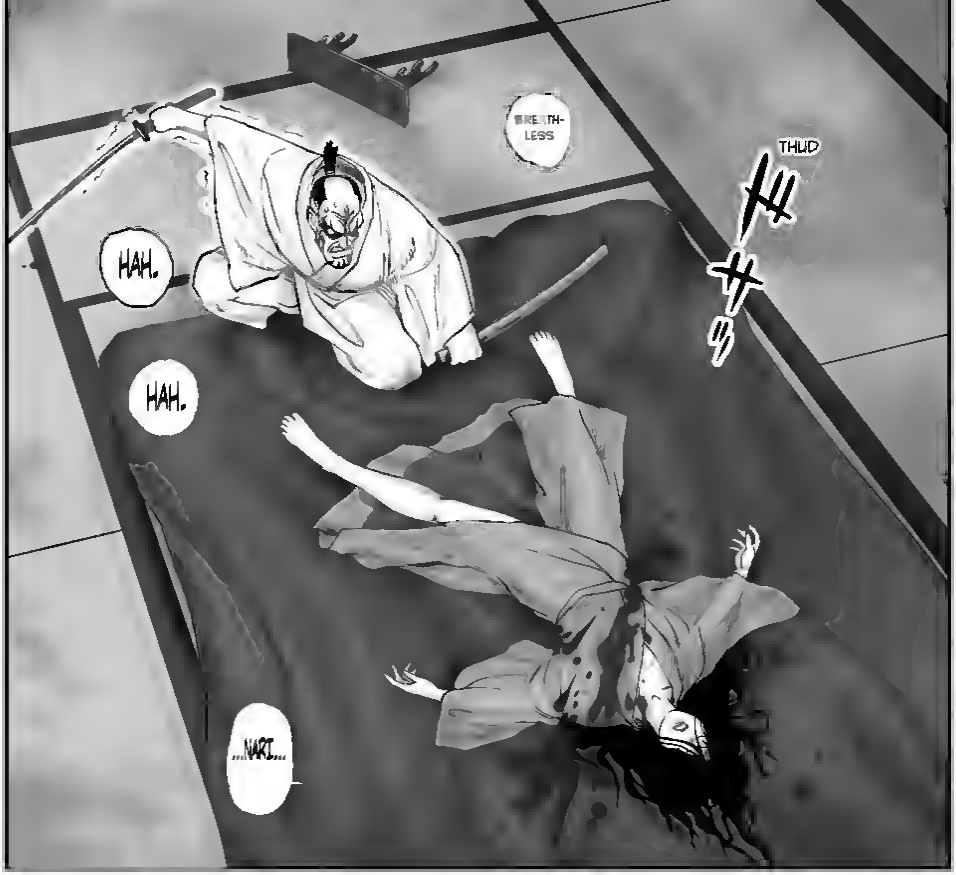
.....
UH...
UHH...


GRGH...

OHHHH
GRAB
OHH
RIP

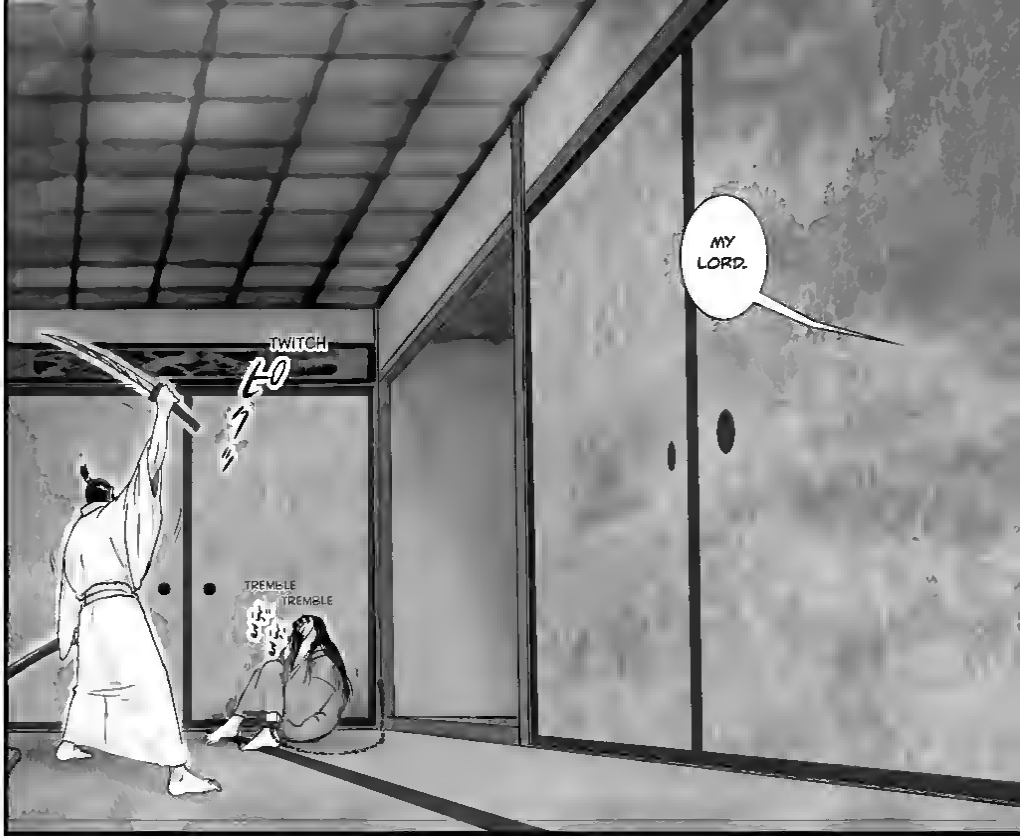
D'OSHH

LO...
RD...
...AKI...
AH...


BREATH-LESS
THUD
HAH.
HAH.
...HRT...

SHUDDER
SHUDDER
SHUDDER
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
...

HIHHHH.
RAISE
SWAY
ゆらっ
HIH...
JANGLE
JANGLE
GLARE
ジロッ。。
HORI... MONDO...
HAUNTS ME STILL...
...EVEN IN DEATH...


MY LORD.
TWITCH
TREMBLE
TREMBLE

I REALIZE IT'S LATE BUT...
WE HAVE COME UP WITH A PLAN, WHICH WE
WOULD LIKE YOU TO HEAR.

GIN-SHIRÔ...
WHAT DO YOU WANT?

!?
DRIP
SLIDE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
I'LL WIPE YOUR SWORD
...MM..
SU

CREAK
キィー。
CREAK
キィー
CREAK
キィー。
HAVE YOU A PLAN?
AFTER TALKING IT OVER SINCE SUNDOWN.
WE CONCLUDED THAT OUR ENEMY...
IS NOT THE HORI WOMEN, BUT THE HANNYA MASK.

DOES MY LORD BELIEVE HIM TO BE A SHOGUN SPY?
HANNYA
JUST WHO IS HE...
CLENCH
キュッ
NO.
HE WOULDN'T HAVE TO WEAR A MASK OR
GO OUT OF HIS WAY TO MOCK THE KATÓ FAMILY IF HE WERE.
SLIDE
スッ...
BUT THERE'S NO DOUBT HE IS INVOLVED WITH
LADY TENJUIN SOMEHOW.
CREAK
ギシッ...

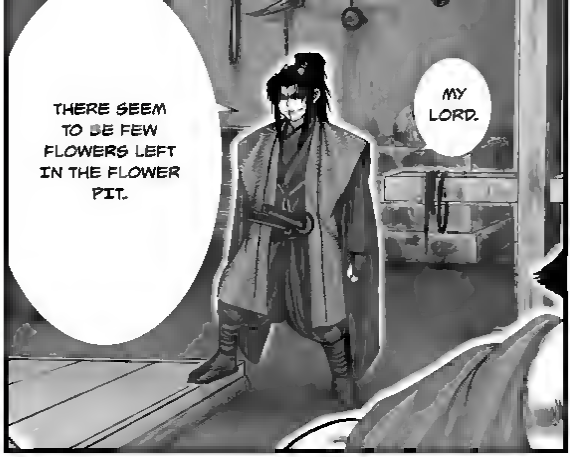
.....
AN ENEMY OF LADY TENJUIN?
MY LORD...
COULD YOU BE AFRAID OF MAKING...

RIDICULOUS!
WHAT IS THERE TO FEAR NOW?

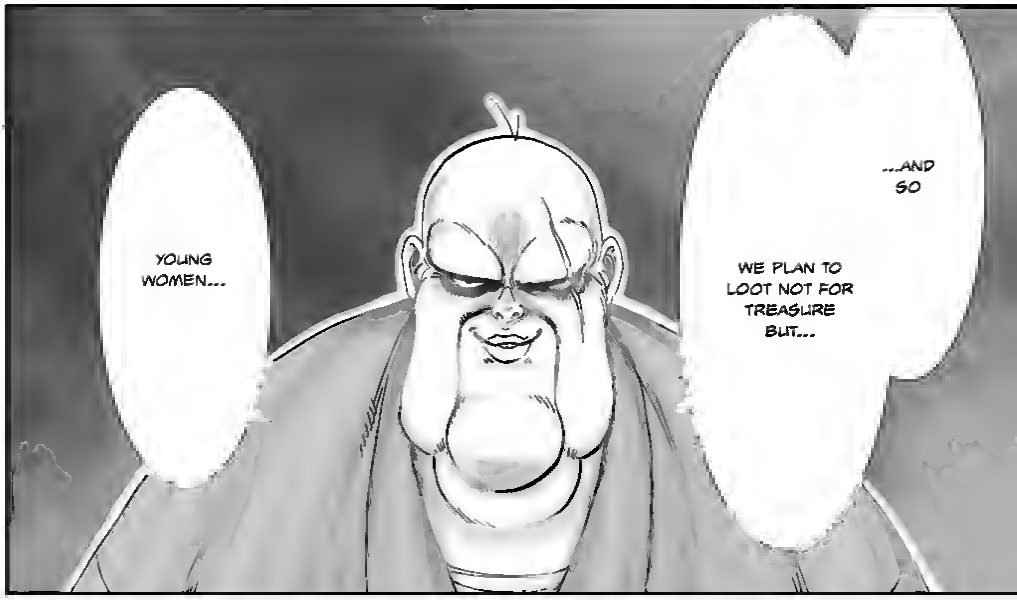
THE SHOGUN APPROVED THE HORI CLAN'S ELIMINATION!
THEREFORE, THE HORI MEN WERE RECOGNIZED AS CRIMINALS!!
ZURU

AND YET THE SHOGUN'S SISTER* INTERFERES.
DAMN HER!!
*Shogun's sister: Third Shogun Iyemitsu's older sister. Princess Sen had already become a nun/priestess at this time and had taken the name
THE MAN IN THE MASK HIDES HIS FACE BECAUSE HE CANNOT BE SEEN!!
WHETHER YOU KILL OR TORTURE THE WOMEN, HE WILL DO NOTHING TO DRAW ATTENTION TO HIMSELF!!
NO! YOU MUST KILL THEM.
OR I WILL NOT SAVE FACE!!

IF YOU ARE PREPARED TO MAKE AN ENEMY OF TENJUIN... PRINCESS SEN.
WE MAY HAVE A WAY OF KILLING THE HANNYA MASK.
...EVEN WHEN YOU DON'T KNOW HIS WHERE-ABOUTS?
GRIN
WE WILL DRAW HIM OUT.
...BUT HOW?
WE FIVE
WILL WEAR RED HANNYA MASKS AND
RAVAGE THE STREETS OF EDO AS BANDITS.


THERE SEEM TO BE FEW FLOWERS LEFT IN THE FLOWER PIT.
MY LORD.

...FOR WHAT PURPOSE?


YOUNG WOMEN...
...AND SO
WE PLAN TO LOOT NOT FOR TREASURE BUT...

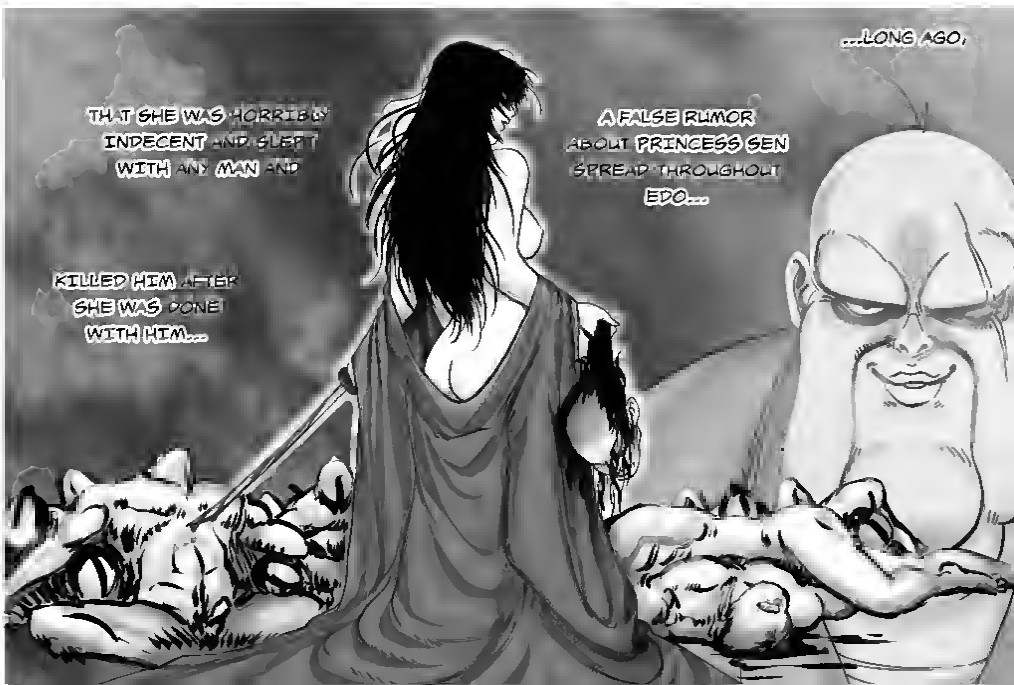
AND THEIR MEN AS WELL.
GRIN

SO.
YOU SAY YOU'LL STEAL WOMEN.
GRIN

GRIN
THE HUSBANDS-TO-BE...
OF THE WOMEN.
MEN?
WHAT SORT OF MEN?
...IN OTHER WORDS
WE WILL TAKE BOTH THE MAN AND WOMAN...
WHO ARE ABOUT TO BE MARRIED.
CRACK
コキ
CRACK
コキ
AND THE MAN...
THE WOMAN WILL COME HERE TO THE FLOWER PIT.

IN FRONT OF EDO CASTLE'S TAKEBASHI GATE.
WILL BE CAST OFF IN FRONT OF WHERE LADY TENJUIN LIVES...

WILL THAT DRAW OUT THE HANNYA MASK?
AH. HOW...


...LONG AGO,
A FALSE RUMOR ABOUT PRINCESS SEN SPREAD THROUGHOUT EDO...
THAT SHE WAS HORRIBLY INDECENT AND SLEPT WITH ANY MAN AND
KILLED HIM AFTER SHE WAS DONE WITH HIM...

IT WAS BECAUSE HER FIRST HUSBAND LORD HIDEYORI
HAD DIED AFTER THE FALL OF OSAKA CASTLE.
THAT SUCH A BASELESS RUMOR HAD SPREAD...
AND HER SECOND HUSBAND LORD HONDA TADATOKI HAD ALSO DIED YOUNG.

BUT SUCH RUMORS ARE NOT EASILY FORGOTTEN.
IF WE CAST OFF THE MEN IN FRONT OF THE GATE.
ANOTHER...
RUMOR WILL SPREAD AND SURELY ANGER PRINCESS SEN.

SHOW HIMSELF TO TRY AND FIND US.
THAT IS THE PLAN.

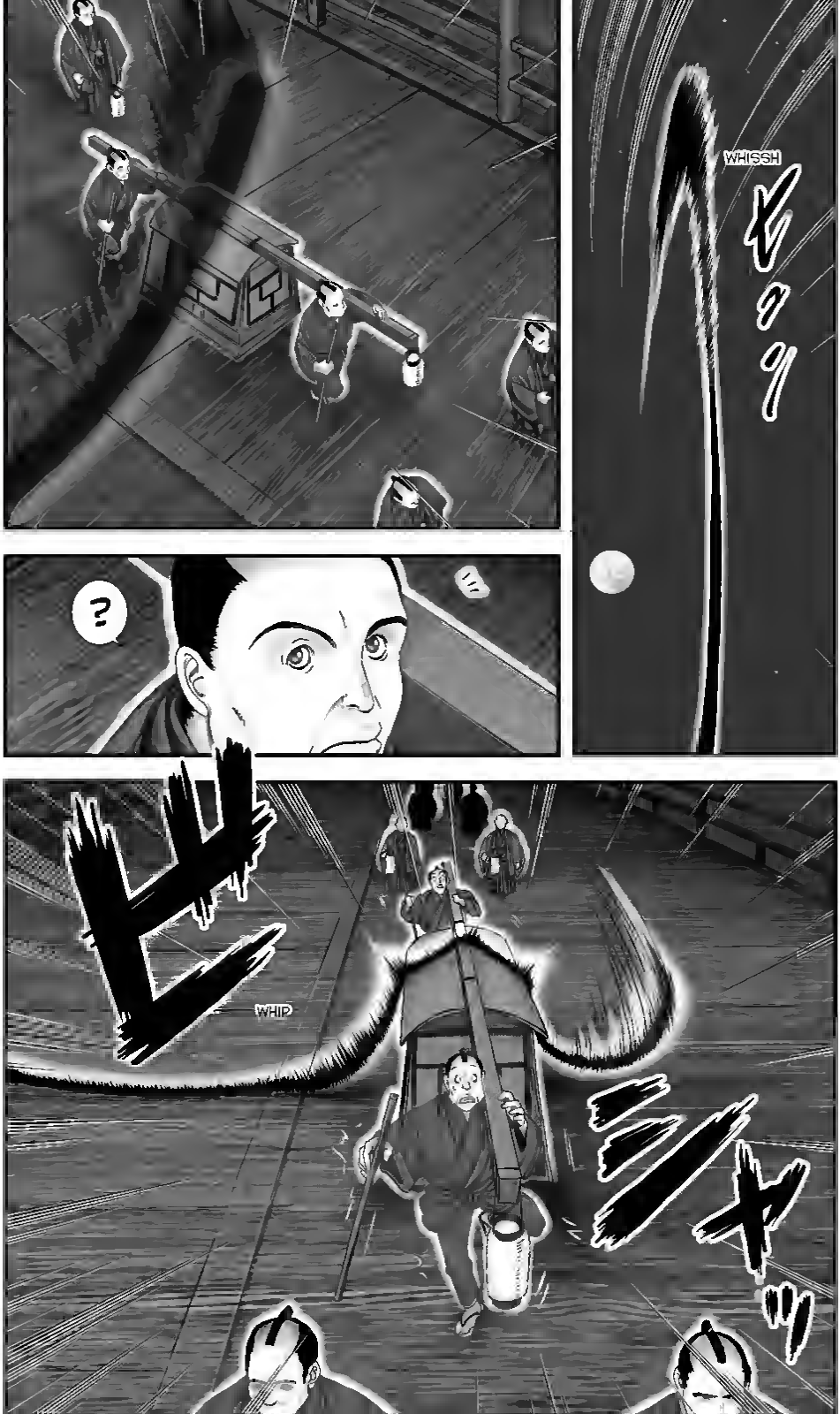
THAT THE HANNYA MASK WILL BE FORCED TO
SHE WILL BECOME SO LIVID...

DO WE HAVE YOUR APPROVAL, MY LORD?
THREE BENEFITS TO ONE PLAN.
STEALING WOMEN.
RETALIATING AGAINST LADY TENJUIN.
AND LURING THE HANNYA MASK OUT....
INTER-ESTING...
...PROCEED WITH THE PLAN.
GRIN
I'D BET AIZU'S 400,000 KOKU
ON IT.
STORY 19 END

DAUGHTER OF YOROZU-YA CLOTHIERS
OITO
SHINZABURÔ-SAMA...
WE WILL SOON BE TOGETHER.

KYŌ
BRIDGE
SU
スッ…

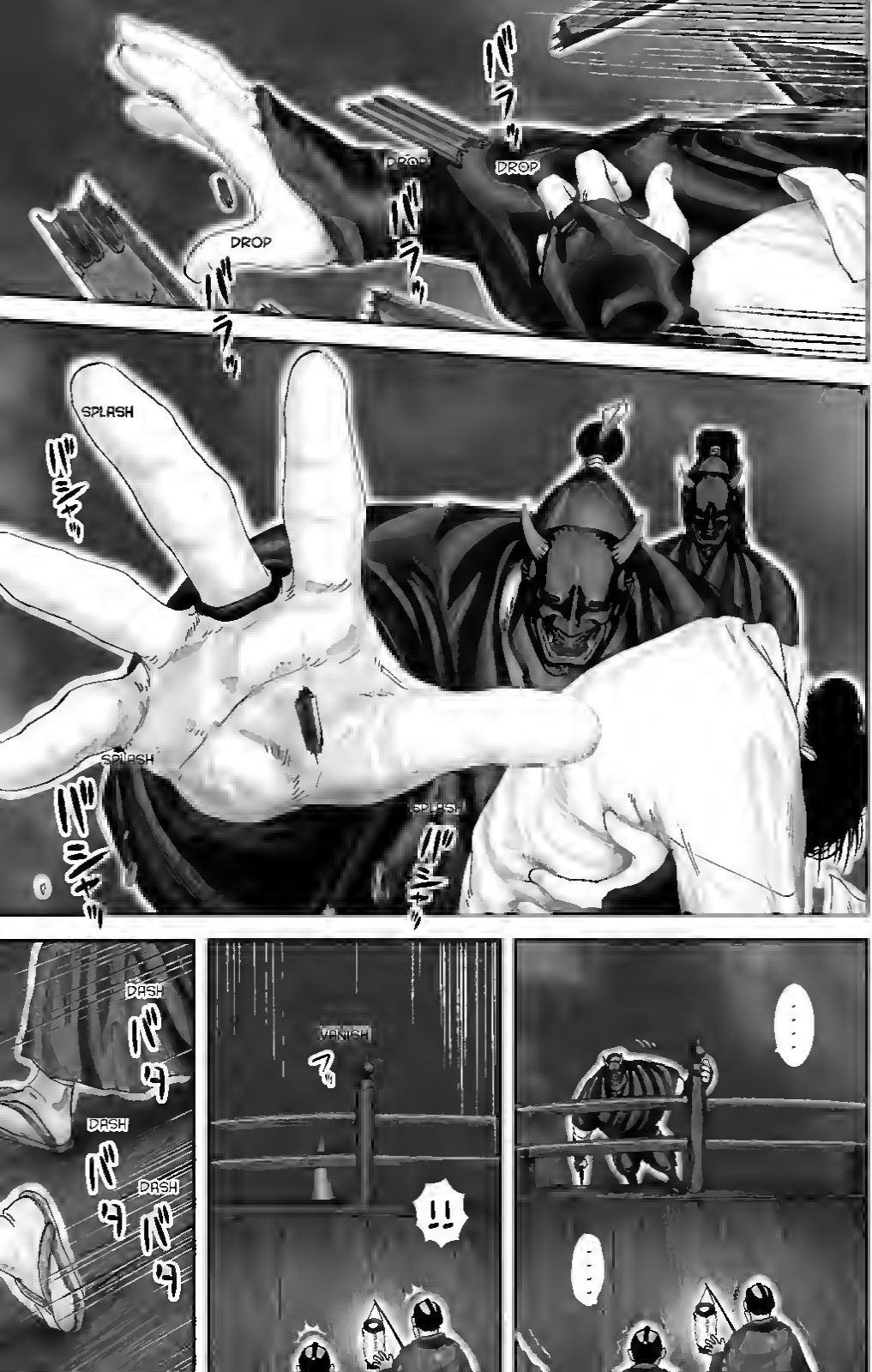
STORY 20: THE HANNYA BANDITS


WHISSH
ヒュッ
?
WHIP
ビシャ

SHH
CREAK
CREAK
?
?
CREAK
TWIST
TWIST
TWIST
GUN
BOOM
AHHH!

WHISSH
OH
ROCK

SU
ROCK
SMASH


DROP
DROP
DROP
SPLASH
SPLASH
SPLASH
DASH
DASH
DASH
VANISH
!!

O-
OITO!!
OITO!!
ROCK
ゆらっ
!?

SOME-BODY GO TO KAGA-YA AND TELL THEM.
TH-THE BRIDE HAS BEEN TAKEN.

D...
DEMONS...

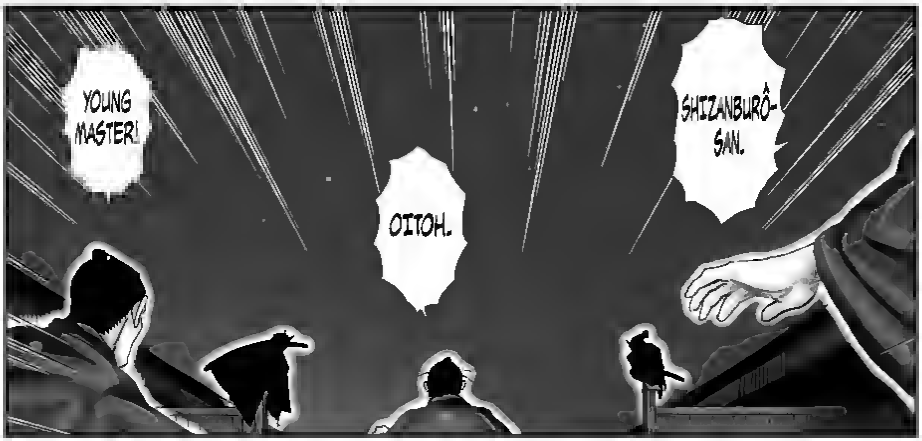
LIQUOR SHOP, KAGA-YA
KYÔBASHI HACHIKAH-CHÔ

THIS IS HOR-RIBLE!

OITOHH.
THE GROOM, SHINZA-BURÔ

OITO.
DASH
バタ
OITOHH.
DASH
バタ
DASH
バタ

DASH
DASH
DASH
YOUNG MASTER!
OITO.
OITO.

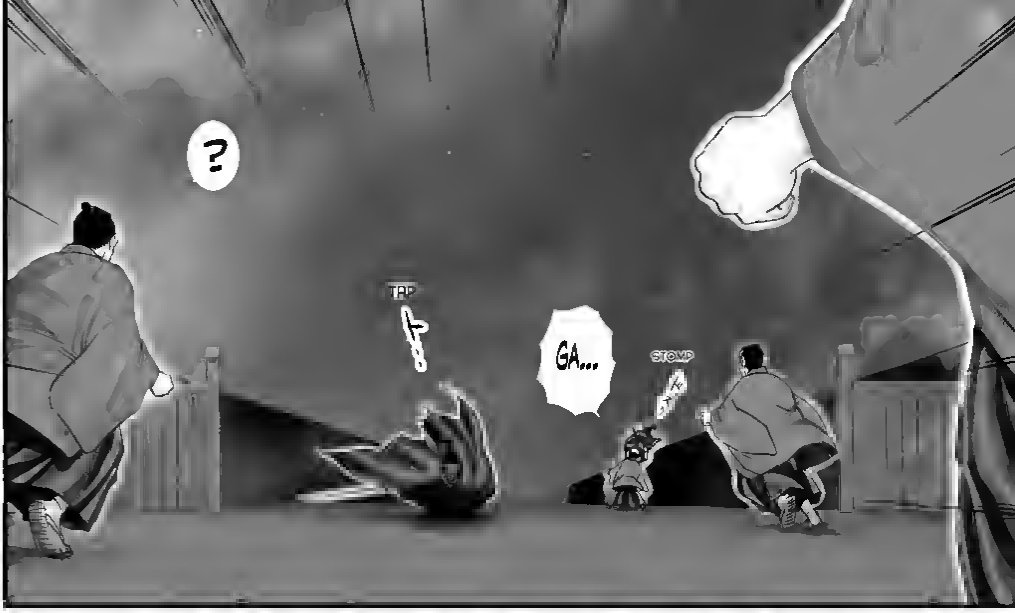

YOUNG MASTER!
OITOH.
SHIZANBURÔ-SAN.

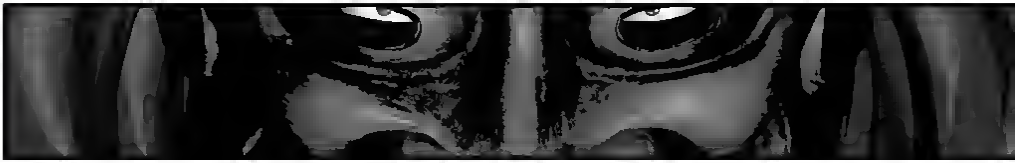
KEKEH.

CLACK

...
STAM-PEDING
DASH
DASH
DASH
DASH

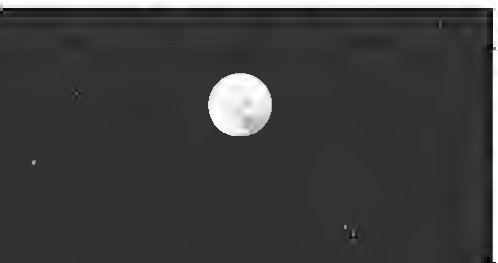
FLAP
バサ
JUMP
ダン
TURN
クル


?
TRP
GA...
STOMP



ZA
ZPZP

ZA!

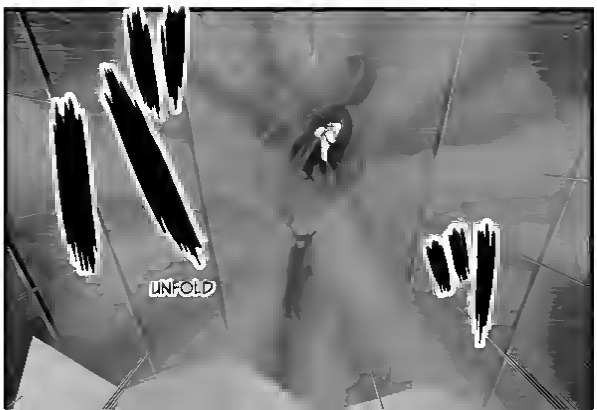


THUD
THUD
THUD
THUD

HATAMOTO. MAMIYA DAIGAKU RESIDENCE
THE WEDDING NIGHT
BRIDE. TAZU
GROOM. MAMIYA SHUME

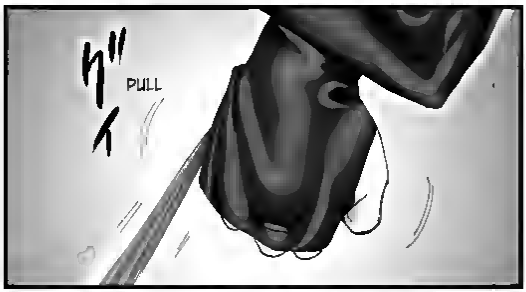
SU
すっ
SHUME-SAMA...
TAZU...
.....
!?
SQUEEZE
ギュッ
PULL
グイッ
AH...

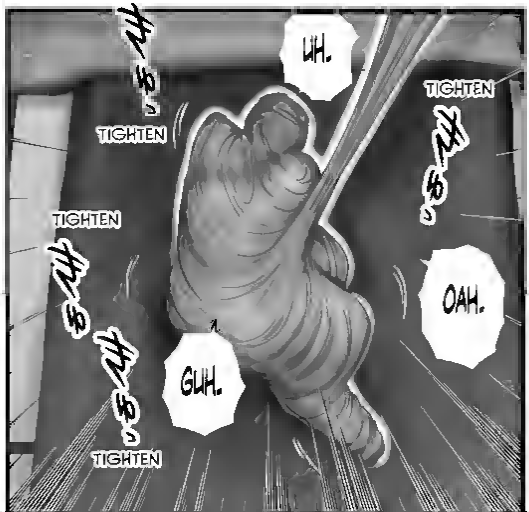
AH...
AH...
...THAT...
TAZU...
TAZU...


UNFOLD

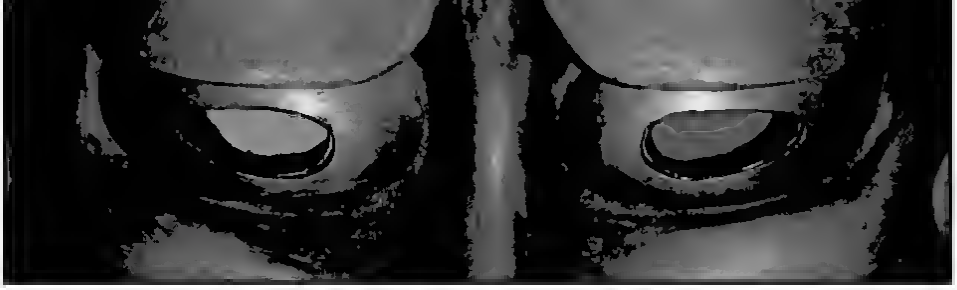
DROP

UH...
...AH.
SLIP

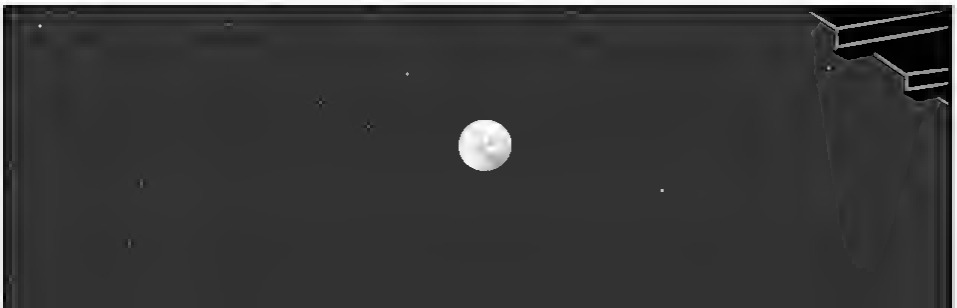

PULL


UH.
TIGHTEN
TIGHTEN
TIGHTEN
TIGHTEN
OAH.
GUH.
TIGHTEN

SU
SU
TAP
HA-
LAND



THE HANNYA BANDITS WERE HERE



!?
AGH!!
GRGH...
UHH!
SU
UH...
UHH...

SU
UH
UH...
SLIP
GUH...

UH.
GWAUU
UUH..
AUU.
STORY 20 END
TO BE CONTINUED
IN VOLUME 4

about the authors

FŪTARO YAMADA

Born in 1922 in Hyogo Prefecture, Fūtaro Yamada made his debut as a novelist while still a student at Tokyo Medical University. Yamada was known for his mystery novels such as *Ganchuu No Akuma*. Later, his Ninja Scrolls series became wildly popular. He penned a wide body of literature, including the period piece *Makaitensei*, as well as several collections of essays such as *Ato Senkai No Banmeshi* and *Ningen Rinjyuu Zukan*. He passed away on July 28, 2001.

MASAKI SEGAWA

Masaki Segawa made his debut in 1997 with the series *Senma Monogatari*, which ran in the weekly comic *Morning*. In 1998, he began his long-running *Uppers* magazine series *Onigiri Jyuuzou*, which ended in the year 2000. This is his second-longest-running series and his first adaptation. He loves cats and watermelon. He currently resides in Funabashi.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Manji jump, pages 12 and 13

A *manji* is a swastika symbol that in Buddhism means "love" and "mercy." In a *manji* jump two people jump in a criss-cross shape like that of a *manji*.

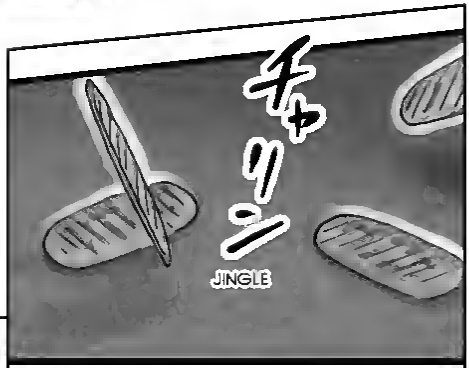
The Unfettered Mind, page 44

The Japanese title is *Fudôchishinmyôroku*. William Scott Wilson's *The Unfettered Mind* (Kodansha Press) is probably one of the only English translations out there, and that's where I got the translation of Jyûbei's recitation.

WHERE SHOULD THE SWORDSMAN PUT HIS MIND...
UH, WELL...
TODAY'S LESSON IS FROM HIGH PRIEST TAKUAN'S THE UNFETTERED MIND.
LISTEN WELL WITH YOUR HEARTS.
YES!
SENSEI JYÛBEI!

Hannya mask, page 87

Mask of a demoness with horns and a face expressing a woman's jealousy, scorn, and pain.



Gold coins, page 132

One oval gold coin amounted to one *ryô*. At the time, the annual salary of a maid or servant was one *ryô*.

***Koku*, page 176**

Koku is a standard measurement of land ruled over by a lord.

***Hatamoto*, page 196**

A *hatamoto* is a Tokugawa vassal whose retainer is less than 10,000 *koku*.